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UNITED STATES WANTS 'FIRST-STRIKE WEAPON' NEAR USSR

LD0122254 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1630 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 1 Mar (TASS) -- Between the hammer and the anvil -- such is the present position of the governments of the countries of Western Europe in which it is proposed to deploy U.S. missiles, writes Stanislav Kondrashov, political observer of IZVESTIYA today.

The hammer is the antimissile movement of the broad public, the anvil -- the position of official Washington at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, the "zero option," with which President Reagan does not wish to part.

However, the author points out, a heated piece of metal is pliable under a hammer in the hands of a blacksmith. The same cannot be said of the lines of the governments in the countries for which the U.S. missiles are destined -- the FRG, as well as Britain and Italy, and even the Netherlands and Belgium. Yes, to a certain, mainly tactical extent the line of their policies bends to the hammer of antimissile feelings. "But," the observer notes, "if the soothing words about 'concern' are set beside deeds, beside foreign policy actions, it emerges that it is not the hammer which plays the decisive role, but the anvil -- the U.S. position adopted by the members of NATO for considerations of solidarity and their customary obedience to the senior partner."

The Reagan administration, the IZVESTIYA observer goes on, is frightening Western Europe with an American "breakaway" and "Soviet blackmail" as a consequence. But in fact this is a case not of Soviet, but American blackmail, and the blackmailers have two targets at once -- the Soviet Union and Western Europe. Washington's cherished plans are no secret. It is enough to glance at the map of Europe and see that from the territory of the FRG a Pershing II missile can reach the vitally important centers of the Soviet Union in 6 minutes. It is not an additional "link" in the defense of Western Europe that the Americans need, but a first-strike weapon close to the border of the USSR. Here lies the real threat of an acute worsening of the military-political situation in Europe.

In the loyalty and fidelty test to which Washington is subjecting its allies, Stanislav Kondrashov notes, their obedience and their readiness to deploy U.S. missiles have come to the forefront, not their consideration of their own interests, not their right and duty to seek a just accord in Geneva." [quotation mark as received]

Recalling Andrey Gromyko's recent statement that the West European states have no right to play the role of observers from the sidelines, let alone of popularizers of the U.S. position, the observer writes: "This role does not become the West Europeans; moreover, it is dangerous."

PONOMAREV: U.S. BLOCKING TALKS TO DEPLOY MISSILES

LD011624 Moscow TASS in English 1544 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The Western press is deliberately distorting the real causes of the stalemate at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on the limitation of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. Thus, the London GUARDIAN claims that "progress" at the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles is possible only if the USSR gives up its demand on taking into consideration the French and British nuclear missiles.

But in real fact the cause of the present stalemate at Geneva is the unrealistic stand of the USA based on Reagan's so-called "zero option" which is aimed at scrapping only Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles. But what about the nuclear potential of Britain and France, the allies of the USA in the NATO bloc? Their missiles are equipped not with some cardboard mock-ups but with nuclear warheads and are targetted on objectives in the Soviet Union: Can the real danger to the USSR be disregarded in such a situation? Hence, everyone who sincerely strives to rid Europe of nuclear weapons, must take into account the nuclear systems of Britain and France.

This is the opinion, for that matter, which exists not only in the Soviet Union, but also in political circles of some NATO member countries. This is only natural. Take, for example, such a hypothetic version. Would Washington be indifferent, had the nuclear force, of, let us say, Britain be not on the side of the USA, as is the case now, but on the Soviet Union's side? The balance of forces would indisputably be of a different character, and Washington would not be able to disregard it. Why then the Soviet Union should resign itself to the fact that apart from the American forward-based nuclear weapons, British and French nuclear missiles are also targetted on it? The Soviet Union has to take into account everything(:) The nuclear systems of NATO, to which one should add also 400 nuclear warheads carried by U.S. submarines, which are assigned on a permanent basis to the NATO arsenal. [sentence as received]

But the Reagan administration uses the question of nuclear weapons of its allies in the North Atlantic bloc (Britain and France) as a means of blocking the possibility of reaching agreement in Geneva, as a cover for imposing its "zero option", i.e. unilateral disarmament of the USSR.

As facts show, Washington sees for itself advantages in creating a deadlock at the Geneva talks. It is doing its utmost to protract the talks until the deployment in Western Europe of new American medium-range nuclear missiles scheduled for late this year. As THE NEW YORK TIMES admits, a year ago President Reagan agreed to hold talks (at Geneva) chiefly in order to gain time for the deployment of new American ground-based missiles on the European Continent. At present, as the newspaper says, it is determined not to allow its allies to renounce the policy of the deployment of such missiles. The same version was reaffirmed also by U.S. Vice President George Bush at a conference of the U.S. Reserve Officers Association the other day. If the Russians do not agree to our proposal, he said, or we are not able to agree to a proposal which the Soviet Union may (:) table, the USA and its allies will start deploying missiles. This is, as we see, simple tactics: While refusing to accept the specific and well-weighed Soviet proposals, the USA is deliberately leading the Geneva Talks into an impasse in order to start the deployment of its nuclear missiles in Western Europe under the pretext of the USSR's intransigence." [quotation marks as received]

IZVESTIYA VIEWS U.S. MISSILE DEPLOYMENT IN ITALY

LD261923 Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- There is no doubt in Italy that the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in the Appennines may have most serious consequences, the newspaper IZVESTIYA points out.

Italy's progressive public, the newspaper points out, is opposing the plans to turn the Appennines into a U.S. nuclear outpost in the Mediterranean. According to the local press, up to 1,500 nuclear systems have already been deployed in Western Europe from among the powerful nuclear potential created by the United States in Europe. On top of that, nuclear-powered submarines with nuclear missiles on board and aircraft carriers with bombers carrying nuclear bombs of the U.S. Sixth Fleet also use Italian ports. "Massive anti-missile actions have been continuing in Italy since August 7, 1981, when the Italian Government passed a decision on building a base for 112 cruise missiles near the town of Comiso in Sicily."

The stand of the Italian Government, the newspaper points out, is clearly in contrast with the will of the majority of the Italians. It invariably wishes to be the first in the NATO harness. On the eve of December 1979, when NATO passed the decision on the deployment of American nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries, the Italian Government not only unconditionally supported Washington's demands, but put every pressure it could on vaccilating partners in the North Atlantic bloc. "It was the first among the West European governments to pass a decision on the construction of a missile base on the country's territory."

Washington, which is hell-bent on deploying new nuclear missiles in Western Europe in order to upset the balance of forces in its favour, the newspaper stresses, is trying to use the talks only as a smokescreen for the implementation of its dangerous plans. Therefore, as many believe here, it put forward the deliberately unacceptable "zero option."

BEGLOV ON U.S. 'INSINCERITY' AT ARMS TALKS

LD251958 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Commentary by APN political observer Spartak Beglov: "One More Scandal on Capitol Hill"]

[Text] In Washington, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has turned down the nomination of Kenneth Adelman as director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. He was nominated by Ronald Reagan personally. True, to somehow soften the blow inflicted on the pride of the master of the White House and sweeten the pill, the committee passed the Adelman case on for further examination by the full Senate.

But the truth will come out. By this decision the Senate committee made it clear that Adelman in such an important post is capable of discrediting U.S. foreign policy even more. After all, it is no exaggeration to say that in [his] replies to members of the committee Adelman showed himself to be a super hawk, convinced that the rearmament of the United States must, allegedly, come before everything else. The fact also surfaced that some time ago, in one of his press interviews, this figure revealed rather frankly the essence of the U.S. approach to disarmament talks, calling them a sham aimed at reassuring public opinion in the United States and the allied countries.

Adelman's attempts to distance himself from this cynical admission have not changed anyone's mind. This incident has confirmed to an even greater extent the worst misgivings of the international public about the real intentions of the U.S. Administration.

Quite recently the West Europeans indicated perfectly clearly to U.S. Vice President Bush during his visit: The main thing now required of Washington is to submit weighty evidence of the fact that the U.S. side is really seriously interested in a successful outcome of the tasks in Geneva.

The U.S. leadership could not have confirmed more openly the complete insincerity of its position than at the moment when Vice President Bush stated: Give us serious proposals from the Russians and we will examine them. After all, these serious proposals by the USSR have been on the negotiating table in Geneva and in the White House mailbox for several months now. However, the addressee has not even found time to cast a glance at them. Hence, the present crisis of confidence in U.S. foreign policy.

WEST EUROPEAN REACTION TO ZERO OPTION NOTED

LD260100 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1948 GMT 25 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Lev Novikov]

[Excerpt] Let us look at Reagan's notorious "zero option." Let us look at it through the eyes of sober-thinking European figures.

The U.S. paper THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER writes: Many prominent European figures and also some American diplomats in Europe think that President Reagan is heading straight for a diplomatic catastrophe in clinging to the "zero option" proposal he presented 15 months ago at the nuclear arms talks. Many European figures are coming to the conclusion that the United States must agree to a compromise. They point out that if America insists on the "zero option," this will inevitably lead to a failure at the talks. They see the danger of the most lamentable outcome in Reagan's actions.

In this connection it is appropriate to recall the warning of Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, our country's foreign minister, to the effect that the appearance of new American missiles in Western Europe would create a qualitatively different situation. This is a warning which is being listened to in Western Europe, as they know that Washington's diehard, inflexible position is actually undermining the nuclear weapons talks. It is not yet known for whom the deployment of new American missiles in a number of NATO countries is not dangerous -- for our country or for Western Europe itself. The missiles are American, but all of the consequences fall on the Europeans.

Here is what the FRG thinks of this:

Chancellor Helmut Kohl: Some intermediate agreement which does not meet all the requirements of the "zero option" will possibly be necessary. Well, he could not express himself more definitely, but already the fact that he called Reagan's "zero option" into doubt says a lot. After all, it is not fortuitous that people, realistically assessing the situation, claim that Reagan underestimates the real scale of the European peace movement.

Manfred Woerner, FRG minister of defense, is a man who one assumes, knows about disarmament questions. He expressed himself more definitely when he stated his firm conviction of the need to agree on a compromise, without which success at the talks is unthinkable. The only thing I would not agree to, said the West German defense minister, is for the Soviet Union to have missiles and for our side to have nothing.

Well, there is no denying it. His position makes sense. We also recognize that it would be unfair if we had missiles and the NATO countries had none. But after all, it would also be unfair if the NATO countries had more missiles than we had. It is for this reason that the Soviet position is based on the absolute equality of the sides -- either zero for all, or parity. For example, the Soviet Union is ready to agree to keep only as many missiles in its European section as Britain and France already have -- and not a single one more -- and to reduce to equal levels on both sides the delivery aircraft with a medium-range of operation which both the Soviet Union and the NATO countries have in the given area. These and other constructive Soviet proposals, proceeding from the principle of equal security, are now on the U.S. President's desk.

Even many prominent Americans believe that a compromise is necessary. Among them is William Tapley Bennett, the permanent U.S. representative on the NATO Council. We would like to have the "zero option" proposals adopted.

However, we do not always achieve what we want. Also according to him, the number of people supporting the "zero option" decision is gradually decreasing. For example, in the Western European countries -- this is being noted by all -- the public's negative attitude toward deployment of U.S. missiles is rapidly becoming stronger.

I think it is appropriate to cite an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES by the well-known American observer, James Reston. With regard to Ronald Reagan's policy, he cited a few quotations from the Bible -- which, in his view, applied directly to the matter in hand -- including the following: "Do not try to do something which is beyond your powers" "Do not aspire to those things which are not accessible to you" A useful piece of advice, especially if one takes into account the fact that Reagan himself advised all Americans to use the Bible as a guide to life.

BEGLOV CONTRASTS USSR, U.S. DISARMAMENT STANDS

AU281742 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 26 Feb 83 p 4

[Article by APN commentator Spartak Beglov "Written for PRAVDA": "Peace Offensive From the East and the Maneuvers of the West" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] SOON IT WILL BE 2 YEARS SINCE THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS IN MOSCOW SUBMITTED A COMPLEX OF CONCRETE PROPOSALS CONCERNING THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION -- THE PEACE PROGRAM FOR THE EIGHTIES. TO THESE PROPOSALS BELONG: FREEZING NUCLEAR MISSILES IN EUROPE, LIMITING THE DEPLOYMENT OF NEW KINDS OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS OF THE OHIO TYPE IN THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE TYPHOON TYPE IN THE USSR, EXPANDING THE ZONE OF THE UTILIZATION OF THE MEASURES OF TRUST IN THE MILITARY AREA IN EUROPE, AGREEMENT ON IDENTICAL MEASURES ALSO IN THE FAR EAST, HOLDING TALKS ON SECURITY GUARANTEES IN THE PERSIAN GULF REGION, SETTING UP AN AUTHORITATIVE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO EXPLAIN THE VITAL NECESSITY OF AVERTING THE DANCER OF NUCLEAR WAR. AT THE END, THE CONGRESS PROPOSED THAT A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL BE CONVENED, ATTENDED BY STATES' HIGHEST REPRESENTATIVES TO SEARCH FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

Reading these proposals, one realizes that they fully correspond to the worries and concerns with which the world lives. This realization is replaced by indignation: After all, if only a part of the concrete proposals concerning mainly freezing the nuclear arms buildup would elicit a positive reaction from those whom they were meant for, agreements could be concluded ridding the world of a new thread in the spiral of the arms race. For example, 2 years have been lost in such an important issue as the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe.

That is not the end of it, however. Not even a month passed without this program getting amendments in the form of proposals to deepen and expand it. To the most important initiatives belong the USSR's solemn pledge that it will not be the first to use nuclear weapons in the European theater while reducing to a certain extent their number, the draft convention on the ban of neutron weapons and so forth.

Of late, in the center of attention of the international public are the latest Soviet proposals for a marked bilateral reduction of the USSR and U.S. strategic arsenals and for a radical reduction of nuclear weapons in the European theater.

THE POSITIVE REACTION OF THE WORLD PUBLIC TO ALL THESE INITIATIVES HAS BEEN ELICITED NOT ONLY BY THE CONSTRUCTIVE CHARACTER OF THESE PROPOSALS, BUT ALSO BY THE FACT THAT THE PURPOSEFUL AND CONSTANT CHARACTER OF THESE INITIATIVES, COMING FROM ONE SIDE ONLY, CONSTITUTED AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE MILITARY FEVER WHICH IN THE CURRENT MONTHS BEFELL THE UNITED STATES AND THREATENED TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THE WESTERN HABIT OF REJECTING THE INITIATIVES OF THE EAST IS PROPAGANDA," SOMETHING THAT CONTINUES TO BE BON TON IN NATO CIRCLES, IS COSTING THE WORLD MORE AND MORE.

Had they, for example, accepted in time the Soviet proposal for limiting the development of new types and systems of strategic nuclear weapons, arms control would have been much more realistic and easier to carry out without the existence of missiles with flat flight trajectory, new systems of nuclear weapons based in submarines (Ohio and similar), the "Stealth" bombers whose production has begun in the United States and so forth.

The history of the arms race is full of examples of how the vicious endeavor of U.S. military circles to get ahead has increasingly complicated disarmament. One example is missiles with multiple nuclear warheads. U.S. politicians who left the scene admit that at that time it was possible to prevent the development of this type of weapon, in which the United States had a lead, had enough political will been found.

AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE CONSTANTLY INCREASING PEACE INITIATIVES OF THE EAST ON THE ONE HAND, AND OF THE EVER INCREASING ESCALATION OF ARMS PRODUCTION AND INCREASING NUMBER OF VARIOUS U.S. NUCLEAR WAR DOCTRINES ON THE OTHER, THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC CAN DRAW FOR ITSELF THE CONCLUSION THAT THE AUTOMATIC NEGATIVISM OF THE WEST VIS-A-VIS THE PROPOSALS OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IS NOTHING BUT A STEADILY GROWING LACK OF POLITICAL WILL TO SEARCH FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENTS.

In the present stage many paths have been determined, aimed at preventing nuclear war, to which the world broadly agrees if we take into consideration the standpoint of the public and individual governments.

The East immediately reacted to these topical demands. At their session in Prague at the beginning of the year, representatives of the Warsaw Pact countries adopted a joint document (the Political Declaration) in which they "inventorized" in detail all topical proposals and measures and again turned to the NATO countries with an appeal that these proposals be jointly implemented. Among them the following proposals were particularly signed out:

ON THE JOINT FREEZE OF USSR AND U.S. STRATEGIC WEAPONS WITH REGARD TO THEIR QUANTITY AND MAXIMALLY RESTRICTING THEIR MODERNIZATION;

ON CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATO AND WARSAW PACT ORGANIZATIONS ON MUTUAL NONUSE OF MILITARY FORCE AND ON FOSTERING PEACEFUL RELATIONS -- AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD ALSO BE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

The whole world talks about these proposals -- they are being discussed at the UN, on the government level and at social forums. The official circles in the West are getting into a blind alley with their maneuvers. If the demands for peaceful cooperation, for a freeze and for concluding accords aimed at averting attacks are hostile "propaganda," the millions in Western countries who are demanding the same thing (as affirmed by the results of a survey carried out among the population of the United States, Great Britain and elsewhere, it is two-thirds and even more of the population) are opposing their governments; they are "enemies."

Averell Harriman, a well-known U.S. businessman and politician and former U.S. ambassador to the USSR, recently called on his government not to throw away a chance provided by -- according to him -- the "pragmatic" and "purpose-oriented" proposals of the USSR and other socialist countries, and stressed that in the face of a nuclear conflict, negotiations on limiting armament should not be used for cynically masking the arms race. And in this is the key to the situation which exists in relations between East and West: One side keeps on submitting proposals for achieving an agreement, the other maneuvers in order to statisfy its yen to own new, even less controllable means for unleashing nuclear war.

The responsibility now lies on the shoulders of the West. As before, it is the turn of the United States and all NATO countries.

APN'S MOROZOV DISCUSSES TRIDENT II POTENTIAL

AU231443 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 22 Feb 83 p 6

[Article by Colonel V. Morozov, APN military commentator: "What the Trident II Missiles Represent: The United States Is Preparing the Potential for the First Strike"]

[Text] A certain American trade union figure, (Jacob Shankman), declared in his speech to participants of the largest peace demonstration in U.S. history on 12 July 1982: "Disarmament must become our greatest and most important task. We have no other choice. Our government is squandering millions, billions, even trillions of dollars for armaments, but all this cannot conceal the most basic fact -- namely, that man cannot live in an MX missile and cannot drive a B-1 bomber."

One could apply these bitter and truthful words -- said in the name of the army of the several million American unemployed, in the name of the many poverty-stricken without roofs over their heads, in fact in the name of all the working population of the United States whose social needs the Reagan administration attacked the very moment it entered the White House -- also to the Trident II missile. In fact, this death-carrying weapon and its combat qualities and mission will become in the nineties a kind of intercontinental MX ballistic missile for the Navy, to be launched from dry land.

It must be particularly pointed out that the Trident II is meant to become the substantial component of the U.S. potential for the first nuclear strike -- a potential for which the U.S. Government is spending unheard of amounts while simultaneously, increasingly more tangibly, cutting allocations for imperative social programs.

Let us add to this that over the last few years the U.S. naval missile systems have been been further perfected by enhancing both the combat qualities of missile-equipped nuclear submarines as well as the missile systems themselves. The more difficult the interception of submarines is the less vulnerable they are.

These trends will be enforced particularly by rearming the already existing nuclear submarines equipped with Trident I missiles and by also producing new Trident II missiles for the Ohio-class submarines.

As far back as November 1981, the U.S. Navy received the first submarine equipped with the Trident missile system. This gigantic 18,700-ton vessel, which is 170.7 meters long, is armed with 20 Trident missiles with a 8,000-km range. The Ohio submarine surpasses the Poseidon submarine used to date by having almost twice the latter's displacement, 1.5 times the latter's number of missile-launching facilities, 20 percent more nuclear charges in its missile warheads, and 2.5 times the total power of charges.

Recently a second submarine of this type was completed in the United States; it is equipped with the Trident missile system, has been christened Michigan, and this spring will set out on its maiden voyage. Seven more submarines of the same type are in various phases of construction. And for the fiscal years 1983-87 the plans include the construction of a further 6 submarines of this type (that means already the 10th-15th in succession); by 1990 the Pentagon counts on receiving a further 13 submarines and also intends to continue building these vessels in the coming years.

In this decade the shaping of the Pacific squadron, consisting of 10 Ohio submarines, will be completed; and the setting up of a second squadron, which is meant to operate in the Atlantic, will begin.

By stepping up its armaments anew, the United States, with the Reagan administration at the head, allegedly wants to eliminate the purported "vulnerable places" in its military machinery at sea; that is the reason for the approval of the production (by 1989) of a new Trident II (D5) ballistic missile for submarines that will be more powerful than the Trident I missile. The new missile will have a 11,000-km range and, according to the tactical-technical demands of the U.S. Department of Defense, it will have practically the same combat qualities for destroying well-protected facilities as the MX missile has. This means that is will become the means of a so-called disarming -- or first -- strike.

The range of the Trident missiles is 2.2 times the range of existing Poseidon naval missiles. What is more, the arming of atomic submarines with the intercontinental Trident II missiles will emphatically diminish the vulnerability of U.S. vessels and enhance the efficiency of their operational use, since these missiles can be launched either from submarines at U.S. naval bases or at sea, immediately after the submarines leave base.

The total payload of the Trident II missile's warhead will be three times as powerful as the Poseidon warheads; at the same time, the margin of error in the fall of individual warheads around the target will decrease more than six times and will amount to 90 meters. It is assumed that, if the accuracy of the hit is within 150 meters, the probability of destroying underground launching silos for intercontinental ballistic missiles will be almost 100 percent. Thus, the Trident II missiles will have both the power and the precision to guarantee the liquidation of well-protected targets. All this testifies to the fact that both MX missiles and Trident II missiles are typical examples of weapons meant for the first annihilating strike -- an idea with which the present military strategists in the Pentagon are most dangerously flirting.

"This weapon will create a certain potential which in a brief interval will liquidate protected targets," U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger stated in a recent speech.

It is in this way, and contrary to all common sense, that the present U.S. representatives are responding to the Soviet Union's appeal to halt the dangerous and costly arms race and prevent mankind from finding itself over the abyss of a nuclear catastrophe.

PRAVDA'S VASILYEV REVIEWS WEEK'S EVENTS

PM281325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Aleksey Vasilyev "International Review"]

[Text] Specific, Considered Measures

It is 2 years since the 26th CPSU Congress, which adopted the peace program for the eighties. Soviet foreign policy, as defined by the 24th, 25th and 26th party congresses, and the USSR's consistent struggle for peace, detente, the limitation of the arms race, disarmament and the elimination of the threat of nuclear war express the vital interests of not only the Soviet people, but all the world's peoples.

Specific, considered measures to limit strategic arms and medium-range nuclear weapons have been put forward in the speeches of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It may be said without exaggeration that they determine the main content of the international debate on the most important questions of war and peace today.

The USSR's proposals offer a real opportunity to resolve fairly and on a long-term basis such an acute problem as nuclear arms limitation in Europe. The USSR has proposed the renunciation of all types of nuclear weapons designed to hit targets in Europe, both medium-range and tactical. It has also expressed readiness to have exactly as many missiles in the European part of the country as Britain and France have, and to reduce its missiles by hundreds, including some of the most modern, called SS-20's in the West. As for the USSR and the United States, that would, in terms of medium-range missiles, be a really honest "zero" option. The USSR is prepared to establish equal levels for medium-range aircraft carrying nuclear weapons too. Full equality would thus be achieved both in missiles and in aircraft, and equality at an incomparably lower level than at present.

In the event of the Soviet proposal's implementation nobody would gain any unilateral advantages. And Europe's security would benefit -- the number of medium-range nuclear arms here would be reduced by a total of more than 1,300 units. And after these reductions both the number of Soviet medium-range missile launchers in the European part of the USSR and the total number of warheads on them would be less than in 1976 -- that is, before the start of the Soviet Union's modernization of medium-range missiles.

But the United States continues to cling to its "zero" option, the purport of which amounts to eliminating Soviet medium-range missiles both in the European part of the USSR and in the Eastern part, without reducing the numbers on the U.S. and NATO side by a single aircraft or a single missile. This week U.S. President R. Reagan again repeatedly defended this pseudozero option in his speeches. But no torrents of words can disguise the groundlessness and hopelessness of that principle.

The USSR's peace initiatives are unfortunately not yet meeting with a positive response in the United States and NATO. The impression is created that by clinging stubbornly to one-sided demands which are advantageous to the United States and which they know to be unacceptable to the USSR, they are deliberately deadlocking the Geneva talks with a view to wrecking them on the pretext of the Soviet Union's "intransigence" and beginning the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe at the end of this year.

This turn of events is causing growing concern among millions of honest, realistically minded people throughout the world. The struggle against the dangerous Washington and NATO plans is growing both in the United States and in West European countries. This is indicated by the demonstrations and rallies held in Western countries in the past week.

Useful Dialogues

The past week demonstrated once again that the ideas of constructive dialogue and mutually advantageous cooperation between states with different sociopolitical systems are forging a path through all the obstacles by those who support a revival of the "cold war".

The continuation of Soviet-French political contacts which found expression in the official visit by French Minister of External Relations C. Cheysson has given rise to animated commentaries. This interest is natural. The USSR and France are great powers, and their word has weight in international affairs, and particularly European affairs. Our two countries were pioneers in detente on the European Continent and have repeatedly demonstrated how relations should be built between states with different social and political systems.

Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received the French guest in the Kremlin. A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, had talks with C. Cheysson.

The exchange of opinions which took place in Moscow covered a wide range of topics. It included questions of bilateral Soviet-French relations and topical international problems. The conviction was expressed on both sides that good potential exists for the further development of fruitful, mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and France in various spheres. The importance of further developing political contacts and dialogue between the USSR and France in the spirit of the traditional good relations between the two countries' peoples was stressed.

A desire to follow the path of improving bilateral relations is present on both sides. The talks held will give additional impetus to the ramified, fruitful ties between the USSR and France in the sphere of economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation. In the course of the visit a program for deepening Soviet-French cooperation in the sphere of science and technology in 1983-1993 was signed.

The two sides came out in favor of continuing the all-European process started in Helsinki and strengthening detente and cooperation in Europe. It was noted that in this connection the successful completion of the Madrid meeting would be of great significance, opening up the path to a conference on confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe. It was agreed that the Soviet Union and France will promote the adoption of a meaningful final document, including the attainment of agreement on convening such a conference.

But naturally, during the discussion of international problems at the talks special attention was devoted to the task of strengthening security in Europe, including the Soviet Union's proposals on reducing medium-range nuclear arms on a basis of parity. It is well known that France's and the USSR's positions on how to stop the nuclear arms buildup in Europe still differ. But the sides' desire not to stop at noting their differences, but to discuss the questions which divide them , is important.

Both the USSR and France attach great significance to the political dialogue between the two countries, which could play an increasing part in the cause of averting war, improving the international situation and consolidating the atmosphere of trust and security on the European Continent. That was the main result of the Soviet-French talks.

The Hungarian newspaper MAGYAR NEMZET, considering the talks, writes: People in Moscow and Paris know that reasonable compromise and subsequent balanced steps serve the interests of the whole of Europe, and that is why these Soviet-French talks can be described as a dialogue of reason, which inspires hope.

The official visit to Greece by N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was a major event in the history of Greek-Soviet relations and in present-day international life. At the Athens talks the heads of government expressed satisfaction with the development of friendly, mutual advantageous cooperation between the USSR and Greece, which covers practically all spheres of interstate relations, including the political, trade, economic, technical, cultural and scientific spheres. As a result of the talks our relations have taken a significant new step forward. In particular, a long-term program for the development of economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Greece was signed in Athens.

The land of the ancient Hellenes is a respected member of the international community. Although relatively small, nonetheless it can make a substantial contribution to the cause of ensuring peace. The talks showed that the USSR and Greece agree that today's most important task is the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, the ending of the arms race, disarmament and the preservation of the detente policy. The Greek side stated that it regards the USSR's foreign policy initiatives and the proposals contained in the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact states as positive and worthy of serious study. The sides expressed the conviction that the creation of nuclear-free zones is an important contribution to the nuclear disarmament process.

Conference in Vientiane

Together with the socialist countries, nonaligned states and all peace-loving peoples, the peoples of Indochina today fight for the strengthening of peace, against the arms race and for disarmament and international detente.

This was clearly demonstrated by the first conference at the highest party and state level in the history of the three fraternal countries -- Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, held in Vientiane 22-23 February. The participants in the conference noted that the Indochinese countries will steadily strengthen their cohesion and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The meeting between the top leaders of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea is of particular significance now that imperialist circles and their accomplices are pursuing a line of whipping up international tension and external forces are provoking friction between the states of Southeast Asia. The fraternal countries of Indochina counterpose to that policy the course of creating an atmosphere of fruitful cooperation in that part of the globe.

Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam warmly welcomed the seventh conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned countries, to be held in Delhi in March.

The conference adopted a statement on the presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea. The governments of Kampuchea and the SRV have reached agreement to the effect that the Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea will leave that country when peace and security are ensured in Kampuchea, particularly on the Kampuchean-Thai border. On the basis of the specific security situation in Kampuchea, a decision will be taken annually on the partial withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops which took place last year, a similar step will be taken this year.

The three Indochinese countries once again confirmed their proposal to conclude nonaggression treaties with China and the ASEAN countries with a view to normalizing relations with those states on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. The Indochinese countries continue to call for an international conference on Southeast Asia to resolve the problems of peace and stability in the region.

The Vientiane conference is of great significance. The documents it adopted indicate the path toward turning Southeast Asia into a region of peace and good-neighborly cooperation.

Rebuffing Provocations

A UN Security Council session convened at Libya's request has taken place in New York. That independent Arab country was the target of new crude blackmail and military provocations from the United States.

The pretext for Washington's provocative sorties was that Libya is allegedly "threatening" Sudan, as well as its ally -- Egypt. Cairo allegedly turned to Washington for "assistance." But Egypt subsequently denied this. Egyptian Defense Minister Abu Ghazalah told correspondents that he had observed "no signs of a crisis or possible aggression against Sudan at present."

The dangerous plans of the United States and its client Israel in the Near East were again pointed out by the Palestine National Council [PNC] session, which has ended in Algiers. The Palestinian parliamentary deputies noted that the "Reagan plan" accords neither in form nor in content with the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, and runs counter to international legality. The PNC members therefore rejected the American proposal. The Palestinian Parliament approved the USSR's proposals onthe Near East and came out in support of the decisions of the conference of Arab heads of state and government in Fes. Yasir 'Arafat again became chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, of which a new membership was elected.

The UN Security Council session held at Libya's request continued, as it were, the instructive list of problems which that organ has to concern itself with. Of the 88 Security Council sessions in 1982, more than half were devoted to the Near East situation, where Israel, sponsored by the United States, mixes threats with direct aggressive actions against Arab countries. On 13 occasions the Security Council members gathered to discuss events connected with the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, where Britain, with U.S. support, carried out an armed action reminiscent of the old times of colonialism. South Africa's aggressive adventures, perpetrated with U.S. and NATO support, were discussed the same number of times. Eight sessions discussed Nicaragua's complaints of subversive actions by Washington.

These statistics alone show who is responsible for the growth of tension in the world, who is undermining the foundations of international security and who is trying to trample on the people's independence and sovereignty. They make you think about the dangerous brink to which mankind has been brought by Washington's crazy policy aimed at stepping up the arms race with a view to achieving "military superiority" over the socialist countries.

In the past week the Soviet people and the working people of the fraternal socialist countries celebrated the 65th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces, which, together with the armies of the other socialist community states, fulfill a lofty historic mission in defending socialist gains and the cause of peace. The Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries, with the growing support of all the peoples, continue their peace offensive, confident that defending peace for our generation and its successors is a realistic task within their power.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON UPCOMING NONALIGNED SUMMIT

IZVESTIYA Previews Summit

PM281543 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by political observer K. Geyvandov: "Delhi Is Taking Over"]

[Text] The Indian capital is taking over from Havana. The routine seventh conference of heads of state and government of the Nonaligned Movement is being convened in Delhi 7 through 11 March this year.

I think it will be no exaggeration to say that this movement is one of the major phenomena of postwar history. Born mainly on the ruins of the colonial system, it has naturally united mainly countries which have recently acquired independence. It is mainly because of these countries that the movement has grown in recent years, and grown rapidly. While 25 states took part in the first conference of leaders of nonaligned countries, held in 1961 in Belgrade, the flags of almost 100 countries, whose populations total over 1.5 billion people, are expected in Delhi now. It should probably also be noted that statesmen like Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Egyptian President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir stood at the cradle of the Nonaligned Movement.

There is nothing surprising in the fact that an anti-imperialist, antimilitary orientation has defined the Nonaligned Movement's political nature. The declaration of the Belgrade conference already noted that lasting peace can be ensured only if a complete end is put to colonialism and neocolonialism in all their manifestations: The principles of peaceful coexistence are the only alternative to Cold War and a world nuclear catastrophe.

These just conclusions have not only not lost their significance but have acquired particular importance now, on the eve of the Seventh Summit Conference of the Nonaligned Movement. The military preparations of the United States and the NATO bloc it heads have assumed unprecedented, all-time record dimensions. Arguments can be heard from official spokesmen in Washington regarding the possibility of a "limited," "protracted" and other types of nuclear war. A most prolonged and dangerous conflict -- the Near East one -- is continuing. A dangerous situation remains in Southern Africa, where Namibia, illegally occupied by the Republic of South African racists, serves as a base for aggression against neighboring African countries which are, incidentally, members of the Nonaligned Movement. The tension is not abating and the existing problems are unresolved in the Caribbean Basin and Southeast Asia. Attempts are still being made to involve the states of Asia, Africa and Latin America directly or indirectly in imperialist military-political alliances and to extend these blocs' sphere of influence to them, which increases the danger of local conflicts growing into a worldwide armed clash.

No less grave a situation has formed in the economic field. Now, according to the Indian newspaper NATIONAL HERALD, the developing countries are in the throes of what is perhaps the harshest crisis in the past 30 years. This borne out, in particular, by the fact that the pace of growth in their GNP, which was 4.9 percent in 1980, dropped to 1.5 percent in 1981. The foreign debts of this group of states are expressed in astronomical figures. In 1979 they were $445.2 billion while in 1981 they increased to $516.6 billion, and have now passed the $540 billion mark. The value of the developing countries' exports have reached its lowest level since World War II. In some parts of the developing world the food shortage has been aggravated. The main reason for this catastrophic situation, the Indian newspaper writes, is the policy of the major Western industrial countries and primarily the approach displayed toward economic problems by the United States, which is giving rise to categorical protests from the developing states.

That is why, when journalists recently asked Indian Prime Minister I. Gandhi to name the range of most important tasks which the Nonaligned Movement's upcoming forum in Delhi will have to resolve, she said that the most urgent questions facing the participants in the conference are the search for ways of easing international tension, disarmament, socioeconomic development and the destruction of the remaining bulwarks of colonialism. As the country organizing the meeting India has drafted a number of documents which will be submitted for discussion and approval by the heads of state and government. The two main documents concern political and economic questions.

The former, alongside an indication of the need to take immediate steps in the field of disarmament, particularly the nuclear disarmament, contains urgent appeals for a fair settlement of the crisis in the Near East, the immediate cessation of the Republic of South Africa's occupation of Namibia and the final granting of independence to that country and a peaceful political solution of all crises in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The latter -- the declaration on economic problems -- calls for the resumption of the dialogue (North-South) between the developed and developing countries for the establishment of a new international economic order and closer cooperation between the developing countries themselves ("South-South"). It also proposes a measure like the creation of a world food bank with a permanent reserve of food totaling 15 million tons by 1985.

Commenting on these draft resolutions, the Indian newspaper TRIBUNE notes that despite a certain softening of their tone, they remain essentially "antiwestern.", "The conclusions which can be reached from recent events in the Nonaligned Movement can scarcely be called hopeful for the United States," THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR stresses. The truth of assessments of this kind is indubitable. Whatever problem you turn to it is easy to see that 99 percent of all the troubles the nonaligned countries experience are the result of the policy of imperialism and racism and its variation -- Zionism. The apologists of imperialism are well aware of this. That is why they are mounting a systematically massed offensive on the movement in an attempt to weaken and split it, to excise its militant spirit and content and to foist on the developing countries the phoney concepts of "genuine nonalignment," "rich and poor nations" and "equidistance from the superpowers." The same aims are served by the thesis which the Western mass propaganda media are zealously disseminating right now to the effect that things will most likely become easier now for the ruling circles of the United States and the other Western powers since chairmanship of the movement for the next 3 years will pass from the "radicals" (Cuba) to the "moderates" (India).

On the other hand, to undermine India's authority and to make it more susceptible to imperialism's insinuations, on the eve of the seventh conference of leaders of the nonaligned states in Delhi, the U.S. press published fabrications about the nuclear program which is being carried out in that country. That is how Indian state circles assess it, and the newspaper the NATIONAL HERALD describes it as a "slander campaign." Many of the states belonging to the movement regard the desire of certain circles to raise a ballyhoo again at the Delhi conference over the so-called Kampuchean and Afghan questions as representing attempts to weaken and split the Nonaligned Movement.

Of course, the Nonaligned Movement, which, as has been noted, unites almost 100 countries, is heterogeneous in composition both from the viewpoint of the levels of development of individual members and in the sense that they belong to different political and economic systems. This fact makes certain countries vulnerable to any sort of intrigues and insinuations. However, facts, and primarily a fact like the recent Managua session of the Nonaligned Countries' Coordination Bureau at foreign-minister level, convincingly confirm the movement's loyalty to its anti-imperialist, antiwar orientation. Incidentally, it was on this basis that THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR drew its conclusions. And Indian Prime Minister I. Gandhi, the Nonaligned Movement's future chairman, reemphasized in an interview recently: "Antiimperialism and antiracism are the main foundations of this movement."

It may be noted with satisfaction that the interests of the developing states and the socialist community countries essentially coincide on a whole series of key questions of the present day. They include the struggle for peace and against the threat of nuclear war and the arms race and the struggle for a new international economic order.

"We view with respect the Nonaligned Movement, whose peace-loving policy makes a useful contribution to international life," Yu V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said in this report "Sixty Years of the USSR." "We resolutely and invariably side with those who even now are compelled to struggle for freedom, independence and their peoples' very existence, those who are compelled to deflect the aggressor's onslaught or who are subjected to the threat of aggression. And this position of ours is inseparable from the struggle for lasting peace on earth which the Soviet Union consistently and tirelessly wages."

A similar approach toward the Nonaligned Movement is displayed by the other countries of the socialist community, which was reflected once again in the recent Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact states approved in Prague this January. After all, they are brought together by the unity of their goals in the struggle for broad, fruitful cooperation -- cooperation free from diktat and interference in other people's affairs -- between all peoples of the world to their mutual advantage and to the benefit of all mankind, in the interests of ensuring a tranquil, peaceful future for present and future generations.

'Provocative' Afghan, Kampuchean Issues

LD011935 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Excerpts] A top level conference of nonaligned countries is due to convene in Delhi next week. Andrey Fialkovskiy brings these details:

For more than two decades the Nonaligned Movement has been taking an active part in world affairs. Since its appearances on the political scene this movement has had to run against hostile activities of the imperialist and neocolonialist circles. These circles are out to split the ranks of the movement.

The enemies of the newly-free countries do all they can to push these countries off the anti-imperialist path taken by participants in the Nonaligned Movement. With this purpose in mind they raise time and again, especially during important forums of the Nonaligned Movement, such provocative issues as say the so-called Afghan or Kampuchean questions. The imperialist circles are now fanning passions around these questions in the hope to aggravate relations between nonaligned countries.

Whole groups of countries are now being brainwashed. In terms of Afghanistan, this is the Islamic Conference Organization; and in relation to Kampuchea, this is the Association of South East Asian Nations. The enemies of the Nonaligned Movement would like the forthcoming Delhi forum to concentrate on these two questions. This is done in order to move, to the background such crucial issues of our time as the prevention of a nuclear threat, a halt to the arms race and the establishment of new just world economic order.

Most of the nonaligned countries are aware of the danger coming from the imperialist circles. As the prime minister of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has pointed out, solidarity is the developing countries' main asset. When they are disunited, they are vulnerable; and when united, they can and must win.

USIA Seeks To Undermine Conference

LD012021 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1300 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] The main foreign political propaganda setup of the United States, the United States Information Agency, on the threshold of the conference of the heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries opening in Delhi on 7 March, has stepped up its anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan propaganda.

These days the branches of the USIA in many of the nonaligned countries are demonstrating anti-Afghan films of a provocative nature, such as, for example, a film called Freedom First which was created with the help of the United States Central Intelligence Agency. By resorting to all possible falsification and tricks this film tries to besmirch the lawful Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, to smear and slander the Soviet people who are providing aid to the Afghan people in repulsing the aggression on the part of imperialism and reaction.

This film has plenty of fabrications about the alleged use of Soviet toxic substances in Afghanistan and methods of genocide in respect of the Afghan population. However, there is really no need to refute these lies becuase these lies were already refuted by prestigious commissions of the United Nations as well as by many specialized international organizations including the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. But what is indicative in this case? The so-called documentary sequences of these films were filmed not in Afghanistan but on a set of the Peshawar television stuido in Pakistan where members of the Afghan counterrevolutionary gangs tried to depict themselves as the suffering Afghan population. The members of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries undergo training in Pakistan and actors and stand-ins hired by the USIA try to portray themselves as Soviet servicemen. This is not so difficult to do, bearing in mind that in Peshawar itself, as its inhabitants so dismally joke, today it is easier to run into an American or a Briton than a native Peshawar.

The totally false film Freedom First as well as many other similar film fabrications of the USIA and the CIA are being used these days by the United States for the sole purpose of undermining the prestige of the lawful Government of Afghanistan on the world arena, to (?smear) it in the eyes of the heads of states and governments of the nonaligned countries, and at the same time to (?bend) the participants of the forthcoming conference in Delhi against the Soviet Union, the true friend of the peoples in the developing countries. The methods of this subversive anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan campaign quite often go beyond the framework of the activity allowed by the legislation of the sovereign countries in respect to the department of the USIA in those countries. For example, in India, one Mr (William Dawson) Jr, a member of the American cultural center, sent out duplicates of stereotype letters to prominent politicians and public figures in various states and union territories of India. The content of these letters was the following: Dear friend, next week, I will be in your city and plan to demonstrate the films Freedom First and In Afghanistan which will undoubtedly be of interest to you. I sincerely invite you to attend the film show.

Actually speaking, such so-called publicity for the anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan false films of a provocative nature was conducted bypassing Indian law, and the so-called program of democracy and public diplomacy recently announced in Washington provides for more extensive activity of this kind. In particular, [word indistinct] scenes from the leading American [words indistinct] are to be flown to Pakistan for creating new television and motion picture falsifications.

The USIA plans to broadly demonstrate their products on the screens of the United States cultural centers in the developing countries. All this cannot be regarded otherwise than an attempt to undermine the unity in the ranks of the Nonaligned Movement, as interference in the internal affairs of those states that are struggling for freedom and national independence.

'SECRET' PENTAGON DOCUMENT EXPOSES U.S. WAR PLANS

LD261822 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 26 Feb 83

[From the "I Serve the Soviet Union" program: Talk by Lieutenant General Dmitriy Antonovich Volkogonov, "military specialist" and doctor of philosophical sciences]

[Text] An important secret Pentagon document revealing the American military's plans for the next 5 years recently became public knowledge in the West. The document, prepared by the war department and the U.S. National Security Council, is entitled "a directive in the field of defense for the fiscal years 1984-88." However, this directive, which from its contents was clearly approved by the American President, has nothing to do with defense. It concerns only aggressive plans.

Judge for yourselves. The document's preamble formulates the aim of the U.S. war machine which is to be ready to annihilate socialism as a sociopolitical system -- nothing more nor less than the entire system. The delirous ideas of the hawks from the hill of power in Washington have been transpored into the dry and sinister language of the militarists. Here, too, in the preamble the specific task is set of developing plans for the first use of nuclear forces in theaters of military actions. Even this brief extract from the Pentagon's directive is sufficient for it to be judged as a strategic expression of the views of the American brasshats who are pushing the world to the dangerous brink of a nuclear conflagration.

Let us look at a few details of these aggressive plans. There is the political aspect of the directive, which unambiguously asserts that the main purpose of the military build-up of the U.S. Armed Forces over the next 5 years is to achieve unilateral military advantages in all spheres. The entire 136-page document is imbued with the idea of conducting constant preparations for a nuclear war, in which according to the ideas of the Pentagon planners they should gain a victory. The United States, the directive says, in the event of a nuclear war should gain the upper hand, even if the conflict should turn out to be a protracted and lengthy one.

The authors of the document totally ignore the peace-loving proposals by the Soviet Union and bank only on force. However, one should note that such a policy by imperialism has suffered defeat in the past and will turn out to be bankrupt in the future, too. This confidence of the Soviet people is based on the economic and military power of our fatherland and its determination to defend the peace and security of the peoples.

If one is to speak of the strategic aspects of the directive, then these concern above all the notorious strategic triad. The fact is that the American strategic offensive forces consist of three main elements. Note, incidentlally, the fact that the American strategic nuclear forces are eloquently called "offensive" forces. The elements are ICBMs, nuclear submarines equipped with ballistic missiles and strategic bombers. It seems that the Pentagon is getting ready to add to this triad a further two elements, medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe and weapons that can be stationed in space.

In effect these plans express a globalization of the strategic aspirations of the American military, who are striving to militarize land, sea, air and space. It is obvious to everyone how dangerous these plans are. However, the White House politicians and the men in generals' uniforms from the banks of the Potomac are failing to take account of many factors. Above all they are failing to take account of the fact that no dangerous U.S. challenge must remain unanswered.

This is the first point. Second, at the present time it is impossible to ignore the mounting public opinion of millions of people on all continents who do not want to become reconciled to the real possibility of the transformation of our planet into an asphalt desert.

As for the military technology aspects of the American directive, they speak very eloquently of the scale of the Pentagon's military preparations. Suffice to say that fantastic sums of money are being allocated for implementation of these militarist plans. Over $1.5 trillion are being allocated during the years 1984-88. This is at a time when millions of ordinary people in the United States, even according to official figures, are below the official poverty line. Even a quarter of this money, for instance, would be enough to transform the Sahara, one of our planet's major deserts, into a flowering oasis and to eliminate much disease, illiteracy and hunger in the developing countries.

But Washington thinks and acts otherwise. Billions and billions of dollars are being thrown onto the altar of the arms race. According to the directive, in the field of defense -- how blasphemous and hyprocritical that sounds -- the Pentagon in the next few years will bring into service a new generation of strategic missiles, continue to build the giant Chio-class nuclear submarines, deploy hundreds more warheads on Pershing-2 missiles and long-range cruise missiles, and bring into service many new military systems and installations.

Even a brief enumeration of the political, strategic and military technology aspects of the Pentagon's new aggressive directive shows vividly how perverted is the thinking of many American and NATO leaders. The Political Declaration of Warsaw Treaty states adopted at the beginning of this year in Prague states that those circles who would like to disturb the only sensible basis for relations between states with different social systems -- namely, peaceful coexistence -- are showing themselves to be more and more insistent. The particular danger in the activities of these circles lies not only in that they are formulating new aggressive doctrines and approving new dangerous directives but also that they are accompanying these political actions by further stepping up the arms race and creating more and more new weapons systems, operational gendarme formations and commands.

The political and ideological struggle against the plans of the overseas militarists that is being waged by our party and state will be even more successful in conditions where the Soviet Armed Forces are constantly ready to foil any aggressive attempts by those fond of military adventures. The proper response of every serviceman to the Pentagon's fresh militarist challenges is to increase his servicemen's skill and enhance combat readiness and vigilance at the present time and at all times. This is our most effective response to those who have not given up the delirious idea of achieving their political goals by means of nuclear war.

U.S. ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF THIRD WORLD

LD261907 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 26 Feb 83

["Washington's Self-Exposure" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- TASS news analyst Ivan Ablamov writes: On the eve of the 7th conference of the heads of state and government of the non-aligned countries the world has become a witness of a kind of a strip show by the incumbent American Administration.

Pressing for the congressional approval of the program of foreign aid for 1984 which is seen everywhere as a tool of imposing ways suitable to U.S. imperialism on other countries, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz made a speech in Atlanta outlining the Reagan administration's foreign policy aims with regard to developing countries and, as they say, dotted the I's.

The U.S. state secretary made it clear with immeasurable cynicism that Washington views Asian, African and Latin American countries as a most important market and as a source of cheap raw, first of all strategic, materials. According to data cited by him, the United States meets more than half of its requirements in bauxites, tin and cobalt through imports from developing countries. Half of American imports of eleven other strategic metals and minerals also come from there. As to a whole number of other commodities, the United States meets its needs for them entirely thanks to supplies from the Third World.

It can be added to what the state secretary said that American monopolies view developing countries as objects of merciless plunder and exploitation. They get 2.5 to four dollars per dollar invested there. Washington's trade policy is causing much damage to newly-free countries. As a rule, customs duties on their exports to the United States amount to about a half of their prices. Taking advantage of the growing gap between the prices of American manufactures and the raw materials imported by the United States, they annually pump billions of dollars in profits from Third World countries. It is this American policy of high bank rates, usurious credits and inequitable trade that is responsible for the fact that the economic positions of the developing countries continue to worsen for the fourth consecutive year.

It was equally cynically that the state secretary spoke about Asian, African and Latin American countries as bridgheads for implementing U.S. hegemonistic ambitions and about those areas where sea lanes for sealifting American troops lie. He declared with straightforward frankness that the United States needed cooperation with the Third World in order to have bases there, in particular for the "Rapid Deployment Force", which Washington intends to use precisely against developing countries. The state secretary spoke about the U.S. intention to create in developing countries such conditions of freedom and security that would meet U.S. interests. What bloody "freedom" and security the United States is bringing to the Third World was vividly explained on the example of El Salvador and other countries by speakers at the recent emergency meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the non-aligned countries in Nicaragua. They exposed the Reagan administration's imperialist interference in southern Africa, the Middle East, the Caribbean, Central America and the South Atlantic. The U.S. secretary himself quoted data of the Brookings Institution, according to which the United States has sent its troops to developing countries to buttress reactionary regimes and carry out its aggressive plans on at least 185 occa[illegible]ons after World War II.

It follows absolutely clearly from the state secretary's cynical speech that the policy of the incumbent U.S. Administration is directed first of all against developing countries. To them this policy represents the main threat. It is precisely these countries that are the target of expansion by U.S. imperialism and monopolies. It is to be supposed that the governments and peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America will not fail to draw proper conclusions from the state secretary's frank speech.

SINO-SOVIET TALKS ON NORMALIZATION RESUME

NC011546 Paris AFP in English 1357 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, March 1 (AFP) -- China and the Soviet Union today resumed talks aimed at normalizing their relations, a Chinese source here said.

However, there was no official Soviet confirmation by noon today of the resumption of a dialogue begun last October with a visit by a Soviet Foreign Ministry envoy to Beijing.

The official silence today was read here as a sign that the talks, expected to last three weeks, will continue to be shrouded in secrecy.

Chinese Deputy Foreign Minsiter Qian Quichen arrived here Sunday with a group of experts to meet with his Soviet counterpart Leonid Ilichev.

In Beijing today meanwhile, just as the second round opened, a top official said China hoped the talks "would make progress."

Information Director at the Foriegn Ministry Qi Huaiyuan told newsmen: "The Chinese Government attaches great importance to Sino-Soviet consultations and hopes that they will be able to make progress."

The first round of talks in Beijing last October revealed deep-seated differences between the two communist giants, and the situation is not believed to have evolved since then.

Beijing has continued to post three conditions to eventual normalization of relations with Moscow -- withdrawal of Soviet troops massed along the Chinese border, an end to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and withdrawal of Soviet support for Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

Moscow on the other hand is insisting there be no pre-conditions for resumption of relations.

Just before today's talks, informed Soviet circles expressed puzzlement over China's repeated denunciations of Soviet "hegemonism" issued alongside various gestures of goodwill.

The Soviet press, menawhile, has remained completely silent on issues dividing Moscow from Beijing.

Informed Soviet sources said they saw little hope for tangible results from the second round of talks, as China once again today accused the Soviet Union of endangering peace and security in Southeast Asia by supporting Vietnamese action in Cambodia.

XINHUA CITED ON PRC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS OPENING

LD011348 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Beijing March 1 TASS -- The 26th Session of the Standing Committee of the 5th National People's Congress has opened in Beijing, XINHUA news agency reports. The session heard a report by Premier of the State Council Zhao Ziyang on the results of his trips to a number of African countries.

COMMENTARY ON REAGAN'S 'TWO-CHINA' POLICY

OW280150 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 26 Feb 83

[(Shi Zhin) commentary: "Taiwan's Position in the U.S. Far East Strategy"]

[Text] Listeners, a recent talk issued by U.S. President Reagan to reporters of the rightist conservative HUMAN EVENTS weekly showed that the United States is determined to preserve the spirit of the well-known Taiwan Relations Act. As is is known to everyone, China has never acknowledged this so-called act because it was published by the U.S. Congress after the establishment of Sino-U.S. relations. However, the U.S. authorities have continued to regard it as a legal basis for maintaining their so-called special relations with Taipei.

Listeners, you all know that these so-called special relations have been extended to the political and military spheres. As well in his talks to reporters, President Reagan reaffirmed that arms sales to Taiwan are a long-range policy. Reagan said: "We are doing what we have always done," and the fact that the United States has persisted in its policy of providing military support to Taiwan may be said to have been based on its own strategic needs. The U.S. President once suggested that continued arms sales to Taiwan not only are based on Taiwan's military needs but are also dictated by the situation in that region.

Based on their assessment of the Far East's present situation and future prospects, the U.S. authorities have given themselves certain powers to interfere in China's internal affairs. During U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' recent visit to China, the United States did not even make any commitment on the issue of the time limit for terminating sales of U.S. arms to Taiwan. President Reagan's statement on this issue was even ambiguous. According to Reagan, the United States thinks that only after China has been unified will military aid to Taiwan no longer be necessary. This shows that the United States is merely paying lip service to "one China," while in practice it is persisting as usual in its erroneous policy of "two Chinas."

Neither the Shanghai communique of 11 years ago nor last year's Sino-U.S. joint communique can justify the U.S. authorities' claim that military aid to Taiwan is in keeping with these documents. Yet the U.S. authorities have asserted that military aid to Taiwan is meeting Taipei's military needs and is in keeping with the strategic interests of U.S. imperialism in the Far East.

In his talks to the HUMAN EVENTS weekly, the U.S. President arrogantly announced that the United States has never made any concessions on the question of Taiwan. U.S. imperialism has supported the Taipei regime both militarily and politically and has directly obstructed the unification of Taiwan province with the People's Republic of China. In doing so, the United States is, in fact, preserving its own reserve base in the Far East. To the imperialist aggressors, the Taipei regime and the South Korean regime are no different from each other in principle. To the big power on the other side of the ocean, both China's Taiwan island and the Korean peninsula south of 38 degrees north latitude are mere regions of concern only to its spheres of military and political influence. Both Taipei and Seoul are extremely anticommunist regimes that have built themselves up under the protection of Uncle Sam on the other side of the ocean. Both Seoul and Taipei have received extensive military and economic aid from the United States, enjoyed various forms of preferential treatment and aptly can be called dependable friends of the United States in the Far East.

Although there are no U.S. troops stationed on Taiwan at present, this does not mean that Taiwan is any less subordinate to the United States than South Korea where U.S. occupation forces are stationed.

The reasons the United States prevents Taiwan from unifying with the PRC and the DPRK from carrying out its policy of peaceful reunification of Korea are identical. Let us not forget, the U.S. Far East strategy is part of its global anticommunist strategy.

Facts show that the political relations between the United States and its agents are varied. For instance, the United States has maintained formal diplomatic relations and signed treaties with South Korea to provide legal grounds for the United States to station troops on Korean soil.

But it has maintained informal relations with Taiwan using the "Taiwan Relations Act" as a cover. However, this situation has not changed the real issue, that the United States has wantonly interfered in the internal affairs of Korea and the Chinese people is beyond a shadow of doubt.

The United States' present special relations with Taiwan are a component part of its anticommunist strategy in the Far East. This kind of relations violates the national interests of the Chinese people and the people of other countries.

GLEBOV COMMENTARY ON U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONS

OW261145 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Geblov commentary: "It Is Still an Anti-China Stand"]

[Text] The following is an analysis by station political observer Glevoc of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' recent statement on U.S.-Taiwan relations and Washington's support for the Kuomintang:

It now appears that the U.S. imperialists do not pay much attention to shame in handling their relations with the Kuomintang in Taiwan. On the Taiwan issue, the present U.S. Administration obviously wants to act according to the guidelines expressed by President Reagan during the presidential campaign. As everyone knows, Reagan has actively advocated for a long time the strengthening of relations with Chiang Kai-shek elements and even raising U.S.-Taiwan relations to a higher level. This is our impression of this issue after analyzing the American press and the statements by the White House spokesman as well as those by Reagan himself.

After U.S. Secretary of State Shultz returned to the United States following his visit to Japan, South Korea and China, U.S. President Reagan said on 14 February: In accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act, the United States has maintained military relations with the Chinag Kai-shek elements and will continue to maintain such relations.

Reagan pointed out: On the question of supplying Taibei [Taipei] with arms and ammunition, the U.S. Government has not made any concession to the Chinese Government.

The CHICAGO TRIBUNE, a major paper in the United States, impudently said on 16 February: The United States should not take any action that may be regarded as a change in the U.S. policy toward Taiwan, nor should it take any action that may be regarded as discontinuing the U.S. protection of the Taiwan people's security.

Moreoever, the Chicago paper also tried to rudely intimidate China by saying: Beijing should avoid quibbling over the Taiwan issue. Otherwise, it would lose Washington's protection and might be attacked by the Soviet Union.

Two days later, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz addressed a meeting of the National Conservative Committee for American Political Action on 18 February. A participant in the meeting asked him this question: Does the Reagan administration intend to abandon Taiwan and not concern itself with Taiwan any more?

In explaining the White House policy on this question, Shultz said: The Taiwan people are our old friends who sided with us in the Vietnam war. They have built a solid economy and a prosperous society. We should not abandon them. Therefore, the Taiwan relations act explicitly stipulates that we should sell arms to Taiwan in order to implement this policy. As for the essence of the U.S. position on Taiwan, it was determined more than 30 years ago, or rather, in 1950.

It was at that time that U.S. General MacArthur called Taiwan an unsinkable aircraft carrier of the United States. He held that Taiwan played an important role in the U.S. strategy in the Far East and the Pacific. It was also at that time that U.S. troops began to actually occupy Taiwan. Taiwan has been under U.S. control since then.

Washington has always regarded the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China as a favor to the latter, and tries to take advantage of this situation to perpetuate its control over Taiwan. The U.S. imperialists talk endlessly about their wish to strengthen friendly relations with China. However, we can find such long and big talk to be worthless by just taking a look at the Taiwan Relations Act, which has been used by Reagan and Shultz as the basis for their position on Taiwan.

The Taiwan Relations Act was signed by former U.S. President Carter on 10 April 1979, only 3 months after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China. In accordance with this act, the United States has fully maintained its relations with Taiwan, including military relations and the U.S. commitment to the protection of Taiwan.

It can be seen from this that the U.S. imperialists verbally advocate friendly relations with China, but actually encroach on China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and national dignity.

USSR DELEGATION ATTENDS PRC TOURISM CONFERENCE

OW020426 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] An international tourism conference opened in Beijing on Monday [28 February]. About 1,000 representatives from 45 countries, including the Soviet Union, attended the conference.

State Councillor Gu Mu said in his opening speech: The development of tourism has promoted understanding and friendship among people of all countries in the world. He announced at the conference that 1.55 million tourists from various countries visited China last year.

JAPANESE TRADE TALKS CONCLUDED; COMMENTARIES

'General Agreements Concluded'

PM251451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Soviet-Japanese Cooperation]

[Text] A wide range of questions connected with the present state of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic cooperation is being discussed at a meeting which opened on 24 February in the International Trade Center in Moscow. Taking part are leaders of a number of USSR ministries and foreign trade organizations and more than 250 representatives of Japanese business circles.

Those present were welcomed by V.N. Shushkov, USSR deputy foreign trade minister and first deputy chairman of the Soviet-Japanese Committee for Economic Cooperation. This is the first time in the history of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations, he said, that such an influential, large delegation of Japanese businessmen has come to the Soviet Union. The meeting is taking place in the conditions of the complex international situation and profound changes in the world economy and international trade. The deepening of the energy and raw materials crisis, the instability of currency systems and the stepping up of protectionist trends in the capitalist economy urgently dictate the need to step up the exchange of opinions and mutual information, which will, in our opinion, help to avoid incorrect steps and thus economic losses in trade.

The volume of Soviet-Japanese trade in 1982, the speaker went on, totaled about $5 billion. Industrial raw materials and energy sources account for the largest proportion of Soviet exports to Japan. Today the proportion of Soviet deliveries in Japan's total imports is relatively small, but as regards individual goods of importance to the Japanese economy the Soviet Union holds a notable place, particularly in commercial timber, cotton, potassium salts, certain types of nonferrous and precious metals, crystalline graphite and other goods. It is also important to note that Soviet goods are not competing with home-produced goods on the Japanese market and do not undermine local industrial or agricultural production. The Soviet Union in turn imports goods from Japan which are necessary to the national economy.

We believe that major Soviet purchases on a long-term basis, particularly in the conditions of recession in the Japanese economy, help to ensure the full use of production capacities and increased employment in Japan. In the period from 1976 through 1980 alone the Soviet Union placed orders in Japan for 80 fully equipped enterprises and installations, and hundreds of subcontracting firms and tens of thousands of workers and employees took part in delivering these.

The speaker went on to note that with the creation of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for economic cooperation in 1965, business contacts between the two countries were strengthened. Eight economic conference have been held. A specific result of the committees' work was the conclusion and implementation of a series of general agreements on exploiting the natural resources of Siberia and the Far East.

We attach great significance to trade with the participation of small and medium-sized firms, the speaker said. There is great potential here, in our view. We believe that small and medium-sized firms have a number of advantages -- they are more specialized, and with today's technological development that is a most important factor for progress. In the 12th 5-year plan we will devote particular attention to modernizing enterprises in the food industry, light industry and the consumer goods industry.

The deputy minister noted that business circles in the Soviet Union are prepared to cooperate only on an equal, mutually advantageous basis, with no preliminary conditions or artificial linkage to nonexistent problems. We are sure, he said, that discrimination in trade damages primarily those who start it, since it results in the loss of advantageous orders.

Of course, he stressed, it must be taken into account that our meeting is not taking place at the best time for Japan. Japan is suffering an economic depression. We are interested to hear the opinion of Japanese business circles on the situation which has arisen.

The Soviet side imposes no bans on trade with Japan and demands no "self-limitation" or "opening of the Japanese market." Our creed is mutually advantageous, stable trade on a long-term basis without discrimination. We believe that the great potential for the development of Soviet-Japanese trade is far from fully utilized and that therefore the opportunity exists to ensure the growth of economic relations.

The two countries' high scientific and economic potnetial, the complementary structure of foreign trade and the geographical proximity of the USSR's developing Eastern regions and Japan -- these are the main factors, and they are stronger than artificially created difficulties, since these factors create the possibility of mutually advantageous trade, which is what business people want. We believe that your delegation's arrival will play a positive role, create a favorable atmosphere and present an opportunity to set the dates for holding the committees' next conference to discuss whatever specific projects the sides consider mutually advantageous.

We have always valued the observance of the principles of international trade in our mutual relations with Japan. There has been no instance in our relations of the Japanese side or a Japanese company, after signing an agreement or contract, failing to fulfill its commitments.

The elimination of artificial obstacles in the path of the development of mutually advantageous trade between the two countries are the imparting of a stable long-term nature to our cooperation are the most important prerequsiites for the successful development of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations in the years to come.

In our plans, as in our policy, the speaker stressed, we proceed on the basis of the need to preserve peace as the most important prerequisite for economic and social progress.

In general the Soviet Union's position on questions of trade and economic cooperation with Japan remains unchanged. Our line is principled and consistent. We continue to advocate the broadest cooperation with our Far Eastern neighbor on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual advantage. At the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted the continuity of the USSR's foreign policy, which was defined by three party congresses.

In conclusion V.N. Sushkov expressed the hope that the meeting will give new impetus to the all-round development of trade and economic relations between the two countries.

In his speech, S. Nagano, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee for Economic Cooperation, expressed gratitude for the cordial reception accorded to the delegation on Soviet soil. He expressed satisfaction at the opportunity for representatives of Japanese business circles to meet with leaders of Soviet ministries and departments and have frank discussions with them on various aspects of trade and cooperation between the two countries. The two sides, he said, should be glad that the most representative Japanese trade and economic delegation ever to go abroad has come to the USSR. Our countries, the speaker went on, are neighbors. In economic terms they are complementary. And this opens up wide opportunities for expanding trade and economic cooperation between Japan and the USSR.

S. Nagano wished the Soviet people further successes in economic development.

M. Takashima, Japanese ambassador to the Soviet Union, welcoming the participant in the meeting, stressed that despite the differences in their social systems the two countries are making efforts to extend cooperation on the basis of the principles of mutual advantage and equality. He noted that the development of Japanese-Soviet relations on a long-term basis will lead to the deepening of economic ties between Japan and the USSR.

The leaders of Soviet ministries and departments and representatives of Japanese business circles who spoke at the meeting said that trade and economic cooperation hold an important place in the whole range of relations between the two neighboring countries. The successful development of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic ties is not only advantageous to both sides from the viewpoint of commercial interests, but is also an important factor helping to create the foundations for mutual understanding and good-neighborliness.

Delegation Departs 26 Feb

LD262250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Correspondent Vadim Volkov report]

[Text] The economic delegation from Japan which has been taking part in the Soviet-Japanese meeting on trade and economic cooperation left Moscow for Tokyo today. It is the first time in the history of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations that such a large and influential delegation of Japanese businessmen has come to Moscow to take part in talks: 250 leaders of 120 major Japanese trading and industrial firms, banks and companies which determine the development of the country's economy. The fact that the delegation is so impressive indicates the great interest on the part of Japanese business circles in the expansion of trade with the Soviet Union. During the talks the sides discussed not just the results and the state of business contacts between Japan and the Soviet Union, but prospects for the further development of trade links. In particular, the possibility of concluding plans for long-term economic cooperation was examined. I asked Shozo Iimura, president of the Council of Directors of the Matsushita Electrical Trading Company to summarize the results of the work of the Soviet-Japanese meeting:

[Begin recording in Japanese fading into Russian translation] A very useful exchange of opinions took place, Shozo Iimura says. That is the opinion of all the members of our delegation. What is very important in my view is the fact that we decided to hold such meetings on trade and economic cooperation regularly, once a year. The next one will take place in Tokyo in April next year. This will enable Japanese business circles to get to know the requirements of the Soviet market better and to discuss questions concerning the expansion of our trade and economic links in good time and in specific terms with the Soviet side. Our company, Shozo Iimura continues, is a major producer of electrical goods in Japan. We have maintained business contacts with the Soviet Union for more than 12 years already. We already have experience of concluding major deals with your country. For example, our country supplied equipment for two works, micro-electric motors and loudspeakers. I would like to stress, Shozo Iimura, president of the Council of Directors of the Matsushita Electrical Trading Company, said in conclusion. That we are interested in trade with the Soviet Union and will make every effort to expand it. [end recording]

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS NAKASONE 'REVANCHISM'

PM281119 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[Colonel Yu. Aleksandrov article: "One Wave of Revanchism"]

[Text] Another wave of revanchism and anti-Sovietism has swept over the Japanese Islands. In a number of the country's cities, on the initiative of the frenzied proponents of a review of the results of World War II and with the blessing of the Japanese Government, a so-called "Northern Territories Day" has been held which, translated into geographical and political terms, means direct encroachment on the Kuril Islands, which -- in accordance with international treaties -- belong to the Soviet Union.

What is the aim of this kind of event, which is being held on an official basis by the Japanese leadership for the third year running? It is not very difficult to find the answer to this question. You only have to acquaint yourself with the circle of organizers. This year the tone for the gatherings in the Japanese capital has been set by Prime Minister Y. Nakasone. As political observers rightly note, the current Japanese Government needs vehement anti-Sovietism raised to the status of state policy in order to justify the course of building up the might of the war machine of the land of the rising sun, which has emerged particularly clearly since the coming to power in November 1982 of Nakasone -- the direct stooge of Japan's military-industrial circles.

Commenting on his rise to the heights of power, the world press noted that Nakasone's appearance in such a responsible state post meant a new stage in Japan's militarization. In particular, the Indian newspaper NATIONAL HERALD wrote at that time: "The Japanese prime minister is known as a 'hawk' who advocates building up the armed forces."

And indeed, his first statements, like subsequent ones too, have left no doubt that in this regard "the new broom will sweep just as clean as the old one." On his initiative, the Japanese Government agreed to set the volume of military spending at 2,754 trillion yen, (about $12 billion), which is 6.5 percent more than in the current fiscal year, which ends in March 1983.

Japan's ruling circles are ready to increase this astronomical sum even more. But the Japanese Constitution, which prohibits the spending of more than one percent of GNP on defense, stands in their way. So it is no accident that the new Cabinet of ministers has chosen the fundamental state law as one of their main objects of attack. Fanning the myth of the "Soviet military threat," the Japanese militarists are trying to convince the people of the need to review the relevant clauses of the Constitution.

As the well-known saying goes: Tell me who your friend is and I will tell you who you are. It follows from the program speeches of the Japanese Government head that he regards the United States as such a friend for Japan. For many years now the militarist weathervane of Tokyo has been rifidly pointed in Washington's direction. Discovering in the growing Japanese militarism a reliable ally for implementing its aggressive plane in the Far East and Southeast Asia, the United States has readily opened up the Pentagon arsenals to the Japanese "hawks." The latest arms and equipment are being dispatched to the Japanese Islands on the pretext of rearming the so-called "defense forces." But these weapons are by no means defensive in nature.

The military hardware with which the United States equips its own troops deployed on the Japanese archipelago is not defensive either. For instance, take the U.S. F-16 fighter bombers, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons. It is planned to deploy two squadrons of these aircraft in the north of Japan at the Misawa Airbase. The very geographical position of this base attests to the overtly anti-Soviet thrust of this U.S.-Japanese step.

An analysis of the activity of the Japanese Armed Forces' command attests that "concern for Japan's national defense" has long been subordinated to U.S. interests in this region. It is also precisely from this viewpoint that the Japanese government's decision on its readiness to control a thousand-mile zone around the Japanese Islands must be viewed.

Recently, Washington has been striving to strengthen its alliance relations with Japan even more, urge on its militarization and thereby involve it completely in implementing American strategy vis-a-vis not just the Soviet Union, but also the countries of Southeast Asia. In Washington's plans Japan is assigned the role of American policeman in the region. With its assistance, the White House plans to keep the region's countries under its control.

An important stage on the path of strengthening the Japanese-American military alliance was the visit to Tokyo at the beginning of February of U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz. As the Japanese KYODO Agency reported, the Japanese Government gave its official consent to visits to Japanese ports by American nuclear aircraft carriers and other U.S. Navy ships sailing the Pacific, which are capable, as is known, of carrying nuclear weapons. This decision was adopted in connection with the upcoming visit in late March of the U.S. aircraft carrier Enterprise to the Japanese port of Sasebo. Prime Minister Y. Nakasone's Cabinet sanctioned the use of Japanese ports not just by this ship but also by the latest nuclear aircraft carrier Carl Vinson and also the battleship New Jersey, which has been transformed into a missile carrier and has Tomahawk cruise missiles on board. Commenting on this decision, spokesmen for the Japanese Foreign Ministry said that Japan's Government does not intend to make preliminary inquiries of the American side about the presence of nuclear weapons on board these ships. In agreeing to this, the present Japanese leadership is tacitly and consciously violating Tokyo's three officially declared "nonnuclear principles": Not to produce possess or import nuclear weapons.

Recently Nakasone declared pompously that "on the basis of the Japanese-American security treaty, Japan plays the role of defensive 'shield' and the United States the role of offensive 'spear.'" As far as the "shield" goes, the Japanese premier is being patently rather modest. As the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI rightly notes, closer military cooperation between Japan and the United States only results in an intensification of international tension in the Far East and hardly meets the interests of Japan. A policy deprived of the people's support, the newspaper stresses, is doomed to failure even if it is welcomed in Washington.

A public opinion poll carried out recently in the country showed that only 29 percent of those questioned support Nakasone's Cabinet, while 43 percent oppose the present government's policy aimed at a steady buildup of militarist efforts and consolidation of the military alliance with the Pentagon.

Even influential circles in Japan do not all consider the course of Nakasone's present government to be correct. Representatives of business circles form a serious opposition in this regard. They know full well, for instance, the advantages of friendly relations with their neighbors, primarily the Soviet Union. The Japanese businessmen preparing to pay a working visit to the Soviet Union at the end of February have said precisely this. In their opinion, only an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding will enable, Japan, which possesses limited natural resources, to cooperate fruitfully with its northern neighbor. The adventurism of Tokyo's present politicians is not only an obstacle to the development of such mutually advantageous cooperation but also makes 120 million Japanese into hostages of the Pentagon, which sees the land of the rising sun merely as its "unsinkable aircraft carrier."

As for the Soviet Union, it has always advocated and continues to advocate the development of normal relations with Japan on the basis of trust, mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs and territorial integrity.

AFONIN ON PROMOTION OF USSR-JAPAN RELATIONS

OW0201I5 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Yuriy Afonin commentary in "Peace and Disarmament" program]

[Text] Two years have elapsed since the Communist Party of the Soviet Union [CPSU], the ruling party of the state, held its 26th party congress. During this short period of time, the world has now come to realize the urgency of the foreign policy and the peace program for the 1980's, adopted at the party congress. The main purposes of these programs include efforts to save the people of all nations from the danger of nuclear war and to preserve peace on this earth. Radio Moscow commentator Yuriy Afonin has the following remarks on how this program has been applied to promoting relations with Japan:

Since the 26th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union has more than once made concrete and constructive proposals to the world for preventing the danger of nuclear war, checking the arms-expansion race and strengthening peace throughout the world in accordance with the foreign policy adopted at the congress. As we do not have much time to explain all these proposals in detail, we will just point out two of them. First, the Soviet Union has declared unilaterally that it will not resort to the first use of nuclear weapons. Second, the Warsaw Pact nations, including the Soviet Union and other socialist nations, proposed in January this year that a treaty on a mutual pledge not to be the first to resort to the use of arms and on maintaining relations of peace be signed between the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries.

Should other nations with nuclear capabilities follow the example of the Soviet Union and should the NATO countries accept the proposal of the Warsaw Pact nations, it would be no exaggeration to say that human beings would be free from the danger of nuclear war and that security will be strengthened substantially for the people of all nations.

The peace program adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress has opened up a way for strengthening regional peace. One example, of course, is the plan to develop and carry out measures for building mutual confidence in the Far East. Some of these measures were worked out at the 26th CPSU Congress. For example, the Soviet Union has stressed once again its intention to develop relations of good neighborliness, mutual confidence and reciprocal cooperation with Japan. The Soviet Union has proposed holding talks with Japan so that the dangers perceived by each can be discussed and measures acceptable to both sides on building mutual confidence can be worked out. In making this proposal, the Soviet Union has set a good example for the other countries concerned.

The Soviet Union has, on several occasions, declared its readiness to guarantee the non-use of nuclear weapons against those nations pledging not to produce, acquire or import nuclear weapons by signing a treaty on the non-use of nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union holds that there is no obstruction whatsoever to opening exchanges of views on this issue with Japan. Such exchanges of views can be held in accordance with the proposals for talks on measures to build mutual confidence in the Far East or in any other way acceptable to the both sides.

Needless to say, what is important is that the three non-nuclear principles declared by Japan should be adhered to fully and faithfully so that no nation will ever have any doubts concerning Japan's strict adherence to these principles.

The above-mentioned proposals, coupled with other similar proposals, comprise an extensive plan for promoting good neighborliness, cooperation and confidence between the Soviet Union and Japan as well as for easing tension in the area surrounding Japan. And this program reconfirms the peace-loving nature of Soviet policy towards Japan, its neighbor in the Far East.

To our regret, however, the Japanese side has never responded to the Soviet proposals. Furthermore, some circles in Japan have, as usual, placed great emphasis on publicizing the so-called Soviet threat in Japan. The Soviet plans regarding SS-20 missiles, thoroughly defensive in nature, have also been used in this propaganda campaign.

These measures are being taken in an attempt to divert the people's attention from the dangerous military buildup, including the buildup in nuclear capabilities, of the United States in the Far East, as well as from the military cooperation between Japan and the United States, which has come to pose an increasingly greater threat to the world. American fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear bombs are scheduled to be stationed in Misawa. The latest and most powerful American aircraft carriers and missile-carrying vessels are to be dispatched to the waters near Japan and Korea. American aircraft carriers are now often seen in the Sea of Japan and plans are now under way to provide vessels of the U.S. 7th Fleet with nuclear warhead cruise missiles. Can it be possible to neglect all these well-known facts?

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko held talks with the Japanese ambassador to the Soviet Union on 23 February. In his talks, Gromyko stressed that the development of the Soviet-Japanese relations; based on good neighborliness, reciprocal cooperation and efforts to build up mutual confidence; not only conforms to the interests of the people of both countries but also contributes to peace and security in the Far East and in Asia as a whole.

One example of the efforts to achieve this purpose is the strengthening of economic ties based on mutual benefit, and it was precisely for this purpose that a large and authoritative delegation from Japanese business circles was received in Moscow with the most thoughtful consideration. And this action certainly conforms to the policy of maintaining strong and truly good-neighborly relations with Japan, adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress.

INDUSTRY PAPER VIEWS TRADE TIES WITH JAPAN

PM011441 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 27 Feb 83 p 3

[Article by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA international observer M. Nepesov: "Good-Neighborliness, Not Confrontation"]

[Text] Never before in the history of Japanese business have so many presidents of major companies and chairmen of the boards of leading Japanese banks traveled to the same country at the same time.

In fact, the list of members of the Japanese business circles' delegation covers several pages -- 252 people arrived in the Soviet capital. The visitors joked: "We chartered an entire aircraft which landed a large Japanese "assault force" at Sheremetyevo-2." It was headed by Shigeo Nagano, 82-year-old president of the Japanese Chamber of Trade and Industry and chairman of the Japanese-Soviet Committee on Economic Cooperation. When he was asked whether the flight from Tokyo to Moscow had not been difficult for him and whether the talks program was not too intensive, the Japanese business patriarch smiled and said that he had always dealt in steel and had become hardened himself. And he added: Some old businessmen may have been fightened of a long trip, but we are young and we have to do good work in Moscow.

Judging by what was said at the press conference at the center for international trade and scientific and technical ties with foreign countries, which was held after the talks, the Japanese businessmen were satisfied with what has been done. A wide range of questions relating to mutual trade and economic cooperation were examined. It was decided to hold regular meetings between representatives of Soviet foreign trade organizations and the captains of the Japanese economy. The next is planned for April 1984 in Tokyo.

S. Nagano expressed great satisfaction at the results of the Moscow talks. "Their positive outcome," he stressed, "is a big step forward from the viewpoint of the development of Japanese-Soviet relations. We had conversations with I.C. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and G.I. Marchuk, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received us at our request. We are highly delighted that so much attention has been given to the representatives of Japanese economic circles."

The Japanese delegation head then drew attention to certain difficulties which are having an adverse effect on the development of trade and economic ties between the two neighboring countries. In Japan today many leaders of companies and banks frequently recall that only recently, in 1979, their country was top of the developed capitalist countries' league in trade with the Soviet Union. "However, as a result of zealous compliance with U.S. 'sanctions'," the influential Tokyo paper ASAHI wrote, "Japan has slipped to fifth place behind the FRG, Finland, France and Italy and is lagging behind the West European states." But this situation can be remedied. Given the will.

Experience shows that an antidote can always be found to "sanctions" imposed from outside. Take, for example, the actions of three large Japanese companies expecting a Soviet order for the construction of a gas condensation plant. In order to avoid any possible complications they decided not to use any U.S. equipment, but to use a processor supplied by the French firm Technip.

Here is another example. In 1980 the value of supplies of Japanese pipes was over R340 million and the following year it rose to R640 million. This means that companies producing pipes have ignored the U.S. call for "sanctions" against the USSR and have done very well out of it.

It is likely that the level of supplies of drilling equipment will also rise following the present meeting in Moscow. The "Sakhalin project" was discussed at the talks. Joint oil prospecting has already been carried out on the Sakhalin Island shelf, and stocks of "black gold" have been found. The next job is to embark on joint oil extraction.

The sides stated that trade between Japan and the Soviet Union is acquiring new strength and expressed confidence that its rate will increase with each passing year. As for our country, its position is plain and clear-cut. "Our credo," Soviet delegation head V.N. Sushkov said, "is mutually advantageous, sound trade on a long-term basis without discrimination." Large-scale Soviet purchases of Japanese goods help to fill production capacities and increase employment. Suffice it to say that in the period between 1976 and 1980 Soviet orders for 80 complete enterprises and installations were placed in Japan. Hundreds of suppliers and tens of thousands of workers and employees helped to meet these orders. This practice has a positive effect, especially in the economic depression which Japan is experiencing at the moment.

...The Japanese businessmen's Moscow "assault force" left for home with optimism and greater hopes. "We are all happy with the results of the meetings," S. Nagano said. "Geographical proximity and the complementary nature of our economies create fine prerequisites for successful cooperation between Japan and the Soviet Union." This view is shared by Soviet people. They believe that the future as well as the present in relations between our states should be determined by good-neighborliness and certainly not by confrontation.

LAGOV CRITICIZES CORDOVEZ PEACE SHUTTLE

GF010740 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, our commentator Ivan Lagov writes: As a result of the discussions held by Diego Cordovez, the assistant to the UN secretary general, in Tehran, Kabul and Islamabad, it was decided that talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan should continue. These talks will be resumed in mid-April in Geneva and again with the mediation of the UN representative.

Undoubtedly this is welcome news, but the question arises: Why should such a complicated matter like negotiations be conducted with the mediation of the United Nations? What hinders direct negotiations? First there is the stance of the Pakistan military government, which persists in its efforts to distort the legal rights of the DRA in holding direct talks on behalf of the people of the Afghan nation. This way of thinking is evident in the utterances by the official (?spokesmen) of the military regime in Pakistan. In Pakistan's publications more vitriolic attacks against the DRA nation and its government are seen, which conjure up a distorted and distrubed picture of the actual situation in Afghanistan and the true policy of the government. They deliberately deny the fact that the national democratic revolution of 1978 was the result of the legal and logical concomitant of the progress and evolution of Afghan society.

As a result of reforms, more than 300,000 landless farmers have become owners of plots of land for which irrigation facilities have been provided. Pastures and canals have been provided to nomadic tribesmen. Only last year 3.5 million peasants were granted loans and credit by the government. With the assistance of friendly countries industries in the DRA are on their way to prosperity, providing workers with opportunities for a better life.

The revolution in the DRA, which took place with the support of all the people, is well on the road to progress and expansion. Babrak Karmal said in an interview with the Indian newspaper PATRIOT: Today the DRA is in a strong position, which enables it to safeguard its revolution and its gains effectively and completely despite the ever-increasing interference by imperialism and reactionaries. This reality is proof of the irrevocable nature of events of the Afghan revolution whose people are religiously guarding the gains of the revolution.

On the basis of the UN Charter and the irrevocable nature of the events of the revolution based on the will of the people of the DRA, the UN secretary general continues in his lawful efforts to seek a solution to the Afghan issue, and Diego Cordovez held talks in Kabul recently following which he expressed his satisfaction over the positive stance of the DRA Government regarding the resolving of the political situation regarding Afghanistan.

In such conditions the Pakistani military regime is trying to malign the DRA with false rumors. Such efforts at this juncture are not conducive to resolving the political issue and this tendency by Islamabad and the Pakistani authorities should be reined in to prove their steadfastness in international affairs [as heard]. The holding of honorable negotiations with Afghanistan and a positive reaction to the proposals of the UN representatives is one of the manifestations of a genuine inclination in Pakistan and can prove to be to the (?benefit of) Pakistan.

AFGHAN SPOKESMAN'S DENIAL ON TALKS CITED

NC010708 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1200 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] An Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman has described as baseless lies the rumors spread in the West alleging that the Afghan Government has agreed to talks between the UN secretary general's representative and leaders of bands of mercenaries who have sought refuge in Pakistan. The Foreign Minsitry spokesman has pointed out that officials of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will never consent to any talks with enemies of the revolution and traitors to the Afghan nation.

IZVESTIYA DETAILS REBEL ACTIONS AGAINST KABUL

PM251501 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 5

["Afghan Reportage" by Correspondent G. Ustinov: "Man With a Rifle"]

[Text] Kabul -- This winter (Kadyr Kalandari), a student at Kabul University, has not once attended lectures. "I have gotten somewhat behind and must catch up with my comrades," he told me. "I am going to defend my diploma. I will have to forget about days off and free evenings...."

(Kadyr) has just returned from the mountainous Panjsher region, where there is particularly fierce fighting against gangs of rebels. As a party member, he joined a detachment of volunteers which was sent from the capital 3 months ago to assist Afghan Army units. Party activists -- workers, students, employees, people of different ages and different lengths of party service -- call themselves soldiers of the revolution. Perhaps not every one of them had received army training in his youth and hardly any of them had combat experience, but now they have both the training and the experience. They lived under frontline conditions, participated in serious operations and displayed considerable courage in open clashes with the enemy.

Several members of that detachment were recommended for DRA orders and medals, (Kadyr) included. "Why was that honor conferred upon him? I asked at the party's city committee. And I heard the answer: "For resourcefulness and courage."

(Kadyr) himself told me the details. During one of the marches along Panjsher's mountain paths their detachment was surrounded. A message had to be passed on to their own people to come to their assistance. (Kadyr) made his shirt into a turban and put on some old clothes so as to pass himself off as a homeless traveler making his way to the city to find work. The transformation was so complete that he successfully got past three dushman posts. The army battalion which arrived to give assistance routed the bandits. The volunteer detachment did not lose a single man.

"But what if the dushmans had recognized you?"

"It is not hard to imagine how it would have ended," (Kadyr) said. "But, first, I was relying on my acting ability, for, after all, I have spent so many years acting in school and student theaters, and second, the entire detachment of almost 100 men was awaiting my safe return. I could not let them down."

(Kadyr Kalandari) has now swapped his weapon for textbooks. And his rifle, baptized in the Panjsher fighting, has been handed to another soldier of the revolution -- (Abdulla Arif). Employed by the Ministry of Finance, he will leave his acocunt books for 3 months and will guard one of Kabul's gasoline pumps. Nighttime thieves, counterrevolutionaries of gangs "touring" the capital's suburbs have long had their eye on these vitally important targets.

Man with a rifle....Today this is not simply a symbol of the Afghan revolution. It is a grim necessity.

Whatever establishment you call at in the capital -- be it the city council house or a polyclinic, a state bank or the editorial office of a central newspaper, a party regional committee or a bakery -- you will be bound to see people with weapon in hand everywhere. You will meet them in Kabul's crowded squares and streets, at busy crossroads and in city bazaars. These people are far from always serving in the Afghan Army or the people's militia. Most frequently they are voluntary helpers of the organs of order, party and trade union activists and members of the Afghan Democratic Youth Organization and the democratic women's organization.

(Khayatulla Emal), chief of the defense section of the Kabul party city committee, told me that 150 posts have been set up in and around the capital, where 1,613 soldiers of the revolution are on duty round the clock -- people whom the party releases from their main work for 3-6 months and sends with weapon in hand to guard important state, national, economic and cultural projects. In addition, hundreds of Kabul residents belong to groups of defenders of the revolution. In addition to fulfilling their own usual labor duties, the members of these groups help to maintain calm and order in residential districts, particularly on the outskirts of the city. Public self-defense groups operate in all enterprises and in large establishments and fulfill operational missions together with militia and state security workers. The volunteers who perform this difficult service with weapon in hand include 500 girls and women.

Need it be said how the republic values their assistance.... The enemies of the Afghan revolution and their patrons, primarily the American imperialists, are adding more and more fuel to the flames of the undeclared war against the DRA. The venal gangs of mercenaries, being trained and armed at the expense of taxpayers in the United States and its allies, are terrorizing the young republic, killing children, women and old men, burning houses, destroying mosques, schools and public buildings, robbing ordinary people, taking everything they have, hampering the transporting of essential goods and sowing death, grief and chaos.

This winter Kabul has become one of the chief targets in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. The bandits decided to leave the city of 1.5 million inhabitants without light, heat or water and to paralyze its economy and normal life. A large-scale and well thought-out action was organized, and an experienced directing hand could be sensed in the counterrevolutionaries' actions.

Back in November dushman detachments tried to stop firewood deliveries to the city. In response to that the city council sent 150 heavy trucks to Paktia Province under a reliable guard of soldiers of the revolution. The column returned successfully to Kabul on the eve of the New Year, delivering a 2-month supply of firewood to the city.

Then rebels carried out a series of subversive actions on the power line linking Kabul with the biggest Afghan power station at Naghlu. Specialists of the Ministry of Electrical Energy did not manage to repair the power line pylons blown up by the dushmans, and for almost 6 weeks the country's chief city lived on energy starvation rations.

The latest of these subversive actions occurred in February. The bandits managed to put out of commission at once five pylons located in almost inaccessible mountainous places. The enemy explosions plunged Kabul into darkness for several days.

Under these conditions the city authorities acted quickly and vigorously. On an appeal from them a detachment of volunteer repair workers was created, and it included several dozen soldiers of the revolution in addition to specialists.

Enterprises in the capital allocated from their own resources the construction materials needed to reconstruct the power line. Kabul's emissaries set out for Naghlu in eight high-sided trucks.

They worked for 6 days and nights to overcome the consequences of the sabotage. They worked with unprecedented courage. The bandits had laid dozens of well-camouflaged mines in the deep snowfield around the destroyed masts, and it was necessary first to find and make safe all the mine traps. There is no road to the pylons. All the materials and installations equipment had to be gotten up into the mountains along narrow ice-covered paths on their shoulders.

"Sometimes we had to decide what to take with us," (Khayatulla Emal), who headed the detachment, said. "A bag of bread or a bag of cement. And the choice was easily made: Construction materials were considered essential."

All worked indefatigably -- both the repair workers and their protectors, the soldiers of the revolution. But they all considered themselves to be soldiers too. If it was necessary to join battle, everyone had a rifle in hand. However, the dushmans, intimidated by the scope of the act of reconstruction, did not dare to poke their nose into the mountains.

Only after electricity flowed once again to Kabul along the repaired power transmission line did the volunteers return home. If only you could have seen what a ceremonial welcome the city gave them!

There is now light and heat in the capital. The power line is guarded by subunits of the DRA Armed Forces. But nevertheless their combat friends and comrades -- the soldiers of the revolution -- are not putting their weapons very far aside. They know that the revolution must be able to defend its gains. They love their city and their country and will not allow the rebels to lord it in the republic.

The man with the rifle is always on the alert.

PRAVDA VIEWS 'LABOR COMPETITION' IN AFGHANISTAN

PM011739 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Special correspondent O. Kitsenko dispatch: "The Impact of Competition"]

[Text] Kabul, 28 Feb -- Labor competition is becoming ever more firmly established in the life of Afghanistan's worker collectives. Teams, shops and enterprises are competing to increase production, raise product quality, improve production processes and equipment and save raw and semifinished materials.

One can judge the impact labor competition is making from the example of the Jangalak automobile repair plant, which occupies first place among Kabul's enterprises according to all indicators. As (Gulyam Rasul), leader of the enterprise's production section, said, the plant has overfulfilled the plan by 10 percent and thus given the state an additional profit of 11.5 million Afghans. This was accompanied by a considerable improvement in output quality.

These results have been possible thanks to the growth of the workers' consciousness and the development of a new attitude toward labor in them.

The results of labor competition are regularly summed up. They are announced to the whole collective, the victors receive bonuses, gifts and letters of thanks. Thus, for example, the repair shop workers who gained first place in the competition were allocated more than 121,000 Afghanis in bonuses.

CULTURAL PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH SRV

OW020515 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1300 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Summary] As we reported earlier, a ceremony has been held in Moscow to sign a protocol on cultural cooperation between the USSR and the SRV during this year. This document concretely defines the cooperation between our two countries during this year which had been set out in the bilateral treaty on cultural cooperation during the next 5 years. Comrade Barabash, first deputy minister of the Soviet Culture Ministry, and Comrade Le Thanh Cong, deputy minister of the SRV Culture Ministry, signed this document.

The Soviet-Vietnamese cultural cooperation protocol provides for considerable expansion of the cultural cooperation and contacts between cultural workers of the two countries. Soviet circus actors will go to Vietnam to give performances in April and May, as will light music artists in July or August and a ballet troupe in October this year.

There will be an exhibition of paintings from a Moscow museum and an exhibition of traditional Soviet holidays and ceremonies.

Soviet audiences will meet performers of the Hanoi folk opera house and a Vietnamese circus troupe late this year. The Ho Chi Minh City Bong Sen [Lotus] song and dance ensemble has given successful performances in many Soviet cities. Exhibitions of Vietnamese ancient sculpture work and paintings will be held in the Soviet Union.

Direct contacts and exchanges of experiences between Soviet and Vietnamese cultural workers will be carried out. A Soviet conductor will be sent to Ho Chi Minh City to help this city's symphony orchestra. Technical cadres of the Soviet Melodia record company will go to Vietnam to share their experience in the production of records. A Hanoi ballet troupe will come to the Soviet Union to join their Soviet colleagues in preparing for the ballet Giselle on Vietnamese stage.

"Speaking at the signing ceremony, Comrade Barabash, first deputy minister of the Soviet Culture Ministry, said: The recently signed protocol brings cultural cooperation between our two countries to a new height. There is no doubt that the broad program for this year will be implemented fruitfully, just as during the Soviet culture days which were successfully held late last year in Vietnam. The implementation of this program will be an opportune stage to prepare for Vietnam culture days scheduled for 1985.

"On behalf of all cultural workers, Comrade Barabash wished his Vietnamese colleagues great achievements in their creative work.

"Comrade Le Thanh Cong, deputy minister of the SRV Culture Ministry, highly assessed the protocol on cooperation during this year. He said:

"[Begin Le Thanh Cong recording] I am very honored to have represented the SRV Culture Ministry on three occasions in three consecutive years to sign protocols with Comrade Barabash on cultural cooperation between our two ministries. We fully agree with Comrade Barabash's evaluation of the brilliant results of the Soviet culture days in Vietnam.

"On the basis of the magnificent success of the Soviet culture days, the protocol we sign now constitutes a further development both in quality and form, particularly in training and raising the level of cultural cadres as well in raising the professional level of our art troupes.

"The current protocol pays special attention to training and raising the level of cadres. As mentioned by Comrade Barabash, this is a very fundamental task for which we have hoped during the past few years, the strengthening of direct relations between cultural installations.

"I do not want to go into the contents of the protocol at length, but only to say that it is a further development in our cooperation." [end recording]

PRAVDA ON LAO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, USSR AID

PM281359 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent Ye. Fadeyev: "Winter Is the Busy Season"]

[Excerpts] Vientiane, Feb [no date given] -- Laos, which embarked on the path of socialist development straight from the era of a semifeudal and colonial system, will not be able to free itself swiftly of the fetters of that system and the grave consequences of the "special war" waged by U.S. imperialism in Indochina. Quite a few economic and social problems here are still interwoven in a complicated and tight knot. This is why the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and the government treat as especially important the elaboration of the right methods and a correct line leading to the main target of the 5-year plan: raising the living standards of the multinational people.

Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the LPRP Central Committee Politburo and first deputy prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], spoke to us about this.

"Our republic, which recently celebrated its seventh anniversary, has achieved obvious successes in all spheres. The government pays paramount attention to agriculture and forestry, light industry, the expansion of communications and the construction of highways both within the country and leading beyond its borders. As you can see, our efforts are concentrated on strengthening branches which will create preconditions for the accelerated development of the national economy. Fulfilling the decisions of last April's Third LPRP Congress, the country is confidently marching along the road of building the foundations of socialism.

"We are clearly aware of the fact that quite a few hardships await us. First and foremost we are affected by the shortage of concrete experience in the organization and management of the new type of national economy. Furthermore, and just as in the past, the enemies of the republic have not ceased their subversive activity against the people's democratic system in Laos.

"The constructive energy of the masses today is directed toward fulfilling the targets set by the First 5-Year Plan for socioeconomic development through 1985," Nouhak Phoumsavan continued. "The party is clearly aware of the problems on which we have to work first and foremost. We are implementing a reorganization of the state apparatus aimed at rendering it more effective and more flexible. It appears that the work we have started on improving methods of national economic management will yeild good results."

The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries rendered great help to the Lao revolution at all its stages. Today Soviet-Lao cooperation encompasses practically all spheres of our states' political and economic life. The year that has just ended again provided several examples of fruitfully developing relations. The Intersputnik space station and a major workshop for the repair of agricultural equipment have been commissioned.

The recent Vientiane session of the Lao-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was yet another affirmation of fraternal friendship. The two sides examined questions linked with the expansion and deepening of our multifaceted relations, elaborated measures to ensure their higher effectiveness and monitored the progress of construction projects being built with Soviet technical cooperation.

Summit meetings are highly significant for the development of the fraternal relations between The CPSU and the LPRP and between the USSR and the LPDR. Thus a broad exchange of opinions on a wide range of issues took place during the recent friendly conversation in Moscow between Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and LPDR prime minister. They noted with satisfaction the fruitful development of the fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and Laos. The republic's mass information media, continuing to comment on the Moscow conversation, evaluate it as a mobilizing factor for accomplishing the great tasks set by the third LPRP Congress in connection with fulfilling the targets of the current 5-year plan.

The successes scored by the LPDR in the last few years have raised its prestige on the international arena. The young republic's foreign policy activity enjoys ever-growing respect. Laos, together with its closest neighbors Vietnam and Kampuchea, consistently puts forward constructive proposals aimed at normalizing the situation in Southeast Asia and turning the region into a zone of stability and peace.

POLITICAL OBSERVER PRESENTS FILM ON KAMPUCHEA

OW011404 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 0930 GMT on 25 February carries a 55-minute documentary film entitled "On Kampuchea's Crossroads," in which political observer Aleksandr Kaverznev gives impressions of life in Kampuchea which he gained during a trip along Highway 5 from Phnom Pehn to the Thai border in Battambang Province.

Kaverznev notes the return of normal living conditions in Kampuchea and recalls the excesses of the Pol Pot gangs in the country, remarking that it is a "dramatic paradox and perversion that many governments continue to consider legal the power of those whose place in the best of circumstances is behind barbed wire." Kaverznev is shown visiting prisons and reeducation camps in Kampuchea and interviewing former members of Pol Pot gangs. Video shows a pile of human skulls as a Kampuchean describes how Pol Pot executioners killed people.

Kaverznev is shown interviewing the chairman of the Sisophon town soviet who points to an area on a map of Kampuchea near the Thai border where he says Kampuchean and Vietnamese troops are deployed. Kaverznev notes that one of the reasons for the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea is that 80 percent of the country's population consists of women and that the Vietnamese are needed to aid in defense. At this point video shows Vietnamese troops at a highway checkpoint and Kaverznev notes that the troops are very secretive about their fortifications.

Kaverznev is shown interviewing a young Khmer prisoner as documentary film footage is introduced showing former Kampuchean Premier Son Sann meeting supporters. According to Kaverznev, he and other former Kampuchean leaders were trained by the CIA.

After discussing the reeducation of subversive elements, Kaverznev is shown in Phnom Penh interviewing Princess (Sisavat Savitvong Nivong), a member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council and cousin of Norodom Sihanouk, who denounces Sihanouk's present association with the Pol Pot gang. Video cuts to show Kaverznev in Bangkok displaying photographs of and magazine articles on Sihanouk. Kaverznev notes that one of Sihanouk's favorite songs is "Oh, I Love You, Beijing." The film goes on to show Kaverznev speaking about Sihanouk with more documentaries showing Sihanouk denouncing Pol Pot. Kaverznev then cites Roy Stapleton, a former U.S. charge d'affaires in Beijing, who after talks with Sihanouk in 1981 promised U.S. assistance to a United Front in Kampuchea. He also notes Sihanouk's statement to an editor of the FRG magazine DER STERN about PRC, U.S. and Japanese pressure for him to join the United Front soon after which he began talks with Khieu Samphan.

After discussing the coalition formed by the Kampuchean emigres and showing films of refugee camps in Thailand, Kaverznev talks to a Thai newspaper editor as shots of Bangkok are shown. The plot to create a coalition government in Kampuchea, according to Kaverznev, is aimed at opening a front against Vietnam and its allies and against communism. If the plot succeeds, he adds, clashes on the Thai-Kampuchean border will increase; Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea will be cut off from paths to normal relations with Thailand and the ASEAN countries and "the Americans will get an excellent pretext to expand their military presence in the region."

Kaverznev goes on to interview General Prahan Kulphichit, founder and leader of the Free People's League of Thailand and former deputy defense minister, who expresses concern over the spread of communism in neighboring countries. Kaverznev notes the general's meetings with Nationalist Chinese leaders as video shows photos of the general meeting Chiang Kai-Shek and Chiang Ching-kuo which decorate the general's study. Concluding scenes show Kaverznev interviewing women who fled Pol Pot camps and returned to Battambang Province and centers for orphans, victims of Pol Pot terror. Titles following the film indicate it was produced by the "Ekran" studio of Gosteleradio in 1983.

RETURNING TIKHONOV CABLES PARTY, STATE LEADERS

PM281449 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report under general heading "From the Plane"]

[Text] Flying over Bulgarian territory, N.A. Tikhonov sent a telegram to T. Zhivkov, genral secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, conveying to them and to all the Bulgarian people cordial greetings and best wishes for success in joint efforts to develop and deepen the indestructible friendship between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples and all-round cooperation and rapprochement between the USSR and Bulgaria.

A telegram to N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and president of Romania, and Romanian Prime Minister C. Dascalescu says:

Returning home and overflying Romania's territory again, I send best wishes to you and the fraternal Romanian people.

USTINOV GREETS GDR'S HOFFMANN ON ARMY JUBILEE

PM010957 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] To Army General Comrade H. Hoffmann, GDR minister of national defense.

Esteemed Comrade Hoffmann:

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own account I send you and all GDR servicemen cordial congratulations and fraternal greetings on the 27th anniversary of the National People's Army [NVA].

Soviet sevicemen sincerely rejoice in the GDR working people's achievements in fulfilling the decisions of the 10th SED Congress and in building a developed socialist society. The GDR NVA, a firm link in the combat alliance of fraternal armies belonging to the Warsaw Pact organization, is making a fitting contribution to the consolidation of the socialist community's defense capability.

I wish all GDR NVA personnel new successes in combat and political training and in resolving the tasks of the reliable defense of their socialist gains.

May the indestructible friendship and combat collaboration between our fraternal peoples and armies strengthen and flourish.

With communist greetings

Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister.

GRISHIN, PROMYSLOV GREET HUNGARIAN COUNTERPARTS

PM251301 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Congratulatory Telegram"]

[Text] On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic, V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and V.F. Promyslov, chairman of the Moscow Soviet Ispolkom, have sent a greetings telegram to Comrades Laszlo Marothy, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Budapest City MSZMP Committee, and Zoltan Szepvolgyi, chairman of the Budapest City Council Executive Committee, which reads:

On the 35th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic, the Moscow CPSU Gorkom and the Moscow Soviet Ispolkom, on behalf of Moscow's Communists and working people, send cordial greetings and best wishes to the Budapest city MSZMP Committee, the City Council and all people in the capital of the Hungarian People's Republic.

We note with great satisfaction that over the past years Moscow and Budapest have established and strenghthened close friendly and businesslike relations based upon the principles of Marxism-Leninism, the community of our ideals and goals, and on mutual trust and respect.

We express our confidence that these traditional relations will continue to develop successfully and will make a worthy contribution to the cause of further strengthening the unity of the CPSU and the MSZMP and deepening the unbreakable Soviet-Hungarian friendship.

We wish you, the communists and working people of the capital of the Hungarian People's Republic, new successes in the building of socialism and the implementation of the 12th MSZMP Congress decisions.

HUNGARY'S CZINEGE VISITS SOVIET MILITARY UNIT

PM251621 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Feb 83 First Edition p 3

[Report from own correspondent Lieutenant Colonel M. Malygin: "Visiting Soviet Servicemen"]

[Text] Southern Group of Forces -- The X Guards Tank Unit has been visited by Army General Lajos Czinege, Hungarian minister of defense: Colonel General Caroly Csemi, state secretary at the Hungarian Ministry of Defense: Lt Gen Ferenc Karpati, chief of the Hungarian People's Army Main Political Directorate and Hungarian deputy minister of defense, and Lt Gen Jozsef Pacsek, director of the Hungarian People's Army main training directorate and Hungarian deputy minister of defense. The visitors acquainted themselves with the personnel's life and routine and sat in on classes at the training center.

The Hungarian People's Army delegation visited the history museum and familiarized itself with the combat record of the unit, which took part in the Hungary's liberation from the German fascist invaders in the years of the Great Patriotic War.

The Hungarian military leaders met with sevicemen and their families at the officer's club. The meeting was addressed by Army General Lajos Czinege, who spoke about how, united with the armies of the other Warsaw Pact member countries, the men of the Hungarian People's Army are enhancing their combat readiness and combat skills. The Hungarian minister of defense presented the tank troops with a momento.

Col Gen K. Kochetov, commander of the group of forces, and Lt Gen N. Shevkun, member of the Military Council and chief of the group political directorate -- both of whom took part in the meeting -- expressed gratitude to Army General Lajos Czinege and to the Hungarian military leaders for their concern for Soviet servicemen's life and routine.

LEADERSHIP BODIES CONGRATULATE CSSR LEADERS

PM280827 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR;

To Comrade Lubomir Strougal, premier of the CSSR Government.

Dear comrades,

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers, on behalf of the Soviet people, warmly congratulate the communists and all working people of the CSSR on the great revolutionary festival -- the 35th anniversary of victorious February.

In the glorious February days of 1948 the Czechoslovak working class, under the leadership of their combat vanguard the Communist Party, struck a crushing blow against attempts by domestic and foreign reaction to deflect the country from the path of profound social transformations. By establishing the working people's power by peaceful means, victorious February marked a radical turning point in Czechoslovakia's historical destiny and opened up socialist prospects for it. It went down in history as a shining example of the Communist Party's application of Marxist-Leninist teaching and implementation of revolutionary strategy and was a major success for the forces of democracy and socialism on an international scale.

In 35 years your country has achieved outstanding successes in all spheres of public life. We are confident that thanks to the selfless labor of workers, peasants and the intelligentsia and the CPCZ's consistent implementation of the course of building a developed socialist society, these successes will be consolidated and augmented.

With its remarkable achievements in building a new life and its consistent foreign policy aimed at achieving lasting world peace and promoting the prosperity and cohesion of the community of socialist states and the unity of the Communist and workers' movement, the CSSR has won high prestige in the international arena.

The communists and working people of the Soviet land value highly the friendship and fraternity which have become firmly established in relations between our countries and peoples. They are fully determined to continue to strengthen these relations, the combat alliance of our communist parties and the all-round cooperation and collaboration of our states and peoples.

We wholeheartedly wish you, dear friends, and all the Communists and working people of Socialist Czechoslovakia great successes in implementing the 16th CPCZ Congress decisions and in the struggle for the triumph of our common cause -- communism and peace.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS ON USSR-ROMANIA TRADE ACCORD

PM010947 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Developing Ties"]

[Text] Bucharest, 24 Feb -- The 14th Session of the Soviet-Romanian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held here 22-24 February.

The sides examined progress in fulfilling the agreements on ways of further developing Soviet-Romanian economic cooperation reached at talks between the party and state leaders of the USSR and Romania.

In accordance with the provisions of the long-term program for the development of specialization and production sharing between the USSR and Romania in the period through 1990, the commission session discussed questions of the implementation of sector subprograms in the spheres of machine tool building, instrument making and tractor and agricultural machine building.

Questions connected with the fulfillment of mutual commitments under trade and economic agreements and with the development of cooperation in the sphere of shipments of foreign trade cargoes were also examined.

The decisions and recommendations adopted at the session form the basis for utilizing new potential for deepening specialization and production sharing, expanding trade turnover and further developing mutually advantageous economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Romania in the current 5-year period and the longer term.

A protocol on the commission session's results was signed by N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and I. Totu, Romanian Deputy Prime Minister.

N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and president of Romania, received N.V. Talyzin and had a talk with him.

SOVIET-POLISH POWER LINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

PM251529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 2

[Special correspondent V. Vukovich report: "International Power Line Under Construction"]

[Text] Lvov -- Five mechanized columns of the Yugzapelektrosetstroy trust have taken their places on the route of a new 750-kilovolt international power line. It will start at the Khmelnitskaya AES, which is now under construction, and, approaching the state border, it will join up with the section of line which Polish power workers are constructing to the city of Rzeszow.

The Soviet section of the new power line will extend for 281 km. Some 400 prefabricated ferroconcrete foundations have already been laid for pylons along its route. Not four, as previously, but five wires will be strung between the pylons in each phase -- which will improve the economicalness of power transmission. Although the route passes through swampy terrain, the construction workers intend to keep within the prescribed deadlines for commissioning the line.

BRIEFS

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY -- The Polish-Soviet Friendship Society has, on the eve of the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, awarded gold badges of honor to a group of Soviet generals and officers for their great services to the strengthening of friendship and mutual understanding between the peoples of Poland and the USSR and of the combat union of the fraternal armies. A festive award ceremony was held in the House of Polish-Soviet Friendship in Warsaw. Wronski, the chairman of the central board of the society, who spoke at the ceremony said that the Soviet Army shoulder to shoulder with the armies of the fraternal countries, reliably defends the gains of socialism and guards peace and the security of the peoples. He stressed the lasting and indestructible nature of the ties of friendship and cooperation linking the peoples of Poland and the Soviet Union. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 15 Feb 83 LD]

COMPARISON OF CPSU GREETINGS TO PCI

Moscow in Italian to Italy at 1800 GMT on 1 March carries a report on the CPSU Central Committee greetings to the 16th congress of the Italian Communist Party [PCI]. This report has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version including the Moscow Domestic Service Russian version of the report published in the 1 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 1, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph four from last line Moscow Italian reads: ...the world situation." [new paragraph] "The Soviet people are consistently prepared to implement the constructive long-term plans, thus ensuring the defense of its peaceful work. Today the Soviet people, led by its Communist Party, are solving many urgent problems of further economic development and progress of the entire society. The main contents of the work carried out by our party and the entire people in the present phase lies in the improvement of advanced socialism. Consistently applying the principles of socialism in their entirety, especially stimulating in every way the initiative and the active participation of the masses in the solution of all problems of social development in every single enterprise up to the state level as a whole, we are advancing with certainty on the path indicated by the Great October." [new paragraph] The message stresses...(adding additional paragraph)

AFANASYEV, ZAGLADIN LEAVE FOR PCI CONGRESS 1 MAR

LD011449 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] A CPSU delegation, consisting of Comrade Afanasyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, chief editor of the paper PRAVDA and head of the delegation, and Comrade Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Central Committee's International Department, left Moscow for Milan today to take part in the work of the 16th Italian Communist Party [PCI] congress.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA VIEWS FRENCH MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

PM011531 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[V. Gusenkov article under the rubric "France on the Eve of Elections to Organs of Self-Government": "Trial of Strength"]

[Excerpts] The pointer of the political barometer has recently been once again indicating the high intensity of the struggle in France. The reason for this is the municipal elections scheduled for the first half of March. In them the French are to elect more than 36,000 municipal councils in urban and rural communes -- the local organs of self-government -- which play a very important role in the life of the country. However, it is not just a question of this. This time, so local commentators believe, the significance of the municipal elections is greater than usual. This will be the first test of the correlation of forces between the two opposing camps -- the Socialists, Communists and small left groupings forming the present ruling majority on the one hand, and the bouregois opposition on the other -- since the left parties acceded to power in 1981. Even though the outcome of the voting cannot shake the positions of the president and the government or seriously influence the composition of Parliament, where the Socialist Party is in an absolute majority, everyting betokens a fierce election struggle.

The Socialists and Communists have a common platform in the municipal elections. They call for support to be given to the left parties' policies. At the same time it cannot fail to be seen that a section of the left parties' potential voters voice dissatisfaction and disappointment with the present policy. Their hopes for a tangible and rapid improvement in the situation have not yet been justified. Such sentiments are also confirmed by public opinion polls. The chief task for the left parties is to mobilize their supporters and ensure broad support for the government in the elections. This is a far from simple matter, as the Socialists and Communists recognize. Back at the end of last year they concluded an agreement to put forward joint candidates on a national scale. In the overwhelming majority of municipal councils the Socialist Party and the French Communist Party [PCF] appear under the flag of the alliance of left forces. This unity is of great significance for Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, Lille and other major cities. For the first time in many decades the Communist and Socialist parties have put forward joint lists of candidates in Marseilles -- the country's second city in terms of significance. In some places, however, agreement has not been reached. By all accounts, the Socialist Party's narrow interests have gained the upper hand over the common interests of the left camp there.

Right from the start of the election campaign the PCF has been pursuing a consistent line: It is necessary, it emphasizes, to halt the opposition's counteroffensive. And what is needed for this is an alliance of left parties and their offensive actions. The Communist Party is acting energetically and purposefully. PCF Secretary General G. Marchais, pointing to the great political significance of the municipal elections, has urged the left parties to rally in order to defeat the opposition and continue the policy of democratic transformations.

SUPREME SOVIET CONGRATULATES CYPRIOT PRESIDENT

LD011314 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has sent a message to President Spiros Kiprianou of Cyprus cordially congratulating him on his re-election and wishing him best successes at this high post. The president of Cyprus in his reply message conveyed heartfelt gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes.

The messages express confidence that relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop successfully in the future.

WEINBERGER, SHULTZ SYRIAN STATEMENTS ASSAILED

TASS Commentary

LD011738 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigory Vasilyev writes:

The propaganda outcry over the Syrian leadership's measures to strengthen the country's anti-aircraft defenses is continuing in the United States. In an interview to American television the U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger contended that these measures signify a genuine risk of the outbreak of a new war in the Middle East. On his part the United States Secretary of State George Shultz spoke in Congress and described the Syrian leaderships steps as a "destabilizing" factor.

Such pronouncements by high-placed officials of the American Administration show that they are making use of strange terminology, to say the least. Judging by these pronouncements the consolidation of the regime of Israeli occupation on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip, the continuing construction of Israeli militarized settlements in these areas and the vigorous preparations for their annexation are a road leading to an "improvement" of the situation in the region.

If we are to accept the American-Israeli logic it comes out that the bandit bombings of Arab capitals by Israeli planes of American make and the barbarous aggression against sovereign Lebanon, that resulted in the death and wounding of tens of thousands of peaceful civilians are nothing but "peace-making" actions. And, by the same token, the expansion of the network of American bases in the Middle East and the steady swelling of the number of American Marines in Lebanon thousands of kilometres away from U.S. territory is a "stabilizing" factor.

All these and other factors and actions that exist and are being carried out within the framework of the aggressive anti-Arab American-Israeli alliance should not, in the opinion of Washington and Tel Aviv, give rise to any particular alarm. But the lawful measures of a sovereign Arab country -- Syria, which has repeatedly been a victim of Israel's perfidious aggression, taken to strengthen its defense capability, measures that are being taken on its own territory, turn out to be "destabilizing" ones and even "posing a threat to peace".

A strange approach indeed. But no juggling with words can conceal the main thing -- that the aggressive expansionist course of the ruling Zionist circles of Israel which have the full support of the United States was and remains the cause of the continuing tension in the Middle East, the main obstacle on the road to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in that explosive area.

Dmitriyev Commentary

LD020057 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Last year the United States led the world in arms sales worth close to $20 billion. Most of the weapons were sold to the Middle East and Persian Gulf nations. We bring you a comment by our observer Igor Dmitriyev.

The picture will be incomplete without some $9 billion in military aid to foreign countries. Thus the total is roughly $30 billion worth of sophisticated weapons. The chief client is Israel. The American policy has always been that of keeping Israel stronger than the rest of the Arab world taken together. Speaking before the House Foreign Relations Committee on 22 February the U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said that the administration's task is not to fall behind the Soviet Union in arms supplies.

None of the American (?forces) supports the allegation that the USSR is ahead of the United States. The mystery about why the American defense secretary had made a statement alleging that the Soviet Union is the world's leading arms supplier and that its arms destabilize the international situation was resolved the other day when Secretary of State George Shultz accused the Soviet Union of destabilizing the situation in the Middle East by having provided Syria with anti-aircraft missiles.

When Israel receives such offensive weapons as modern jets, air-to-air missiles, night vision and radar jamming equipment from the United States this is done for the sake of stability, or so we are told. As a next stage of this Middle East stability Israel tests these weapons against an Arab nation and reports on their performance to the Pentagon. A model of stability for the Middle East would be for Israel to wipe out anti-American heresy there with American arms and turn it into a subdued place.

The talk about Soviet anti-aircraft missiles in Syria being destabilizing could be made by those who are planning a strike against this Arab nation, and Israel is being clearly prodded to do so. On Monday a group of retired American military officers said at a news conference in Washington that the administration does not understand the new and growing threat that the Soviet Union poses in the region. Experience has shown that Israel should not be told twice what to do when U.S. officials start a propaganda campaign about there being a threat to Israeli and American interests in the Middle East.

Another purpose of this campaign is to convince Congress of the need to prolong the presence of American troops in Lebanon indefinitely and even expand the force to ensure Israel's security in the north. It's not accidental, therefore, that at the news conference in Washington the retired American generals urged Washington to sign a memo of understanding with Israel to share strategic information, because the United States and Israel are irrevocably tied together.

The alliance between the world's leading arms merchant and his chief client in the Middle East has led to the killing of many thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians. For Israel the war in Lebanon was the fifth since 1948. Such champions of stability in the Middle East as George Shultz and Caspar Weinberger appear to encourage another by saying that Syrian anti-aircraft defenses are a threat to the region.

Timoshkin Commentary

LD011942 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 1 Mar 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program by A. Timoshkin]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger expressed on Monday Washington's great concern over the measures that Syria has taken to consolidate its defense force. In this connection, Washington stresses the point that Syria has deployed on its territory additional air defense means.

At the same time, the two secretaries in the Reagan administration deliberately remain silent about the fact that these additional measures to consolidate its defense force were formed onto Syria because during recent months Israel has been constantly increasing its aggressive activity against Syria, and because Israeli officials have impudently been threatening to deal a crushing blow to centers of vital importance in Syria, including Damascus.

Shultz and Weinberger are now actually giving Israel a green light to embark on wide-scale aggression. By their attacks on Syria, both Washington and Tel Aviv seek certain aims, the first of which is to assist Israel in cementing the fruits of its aggression against Lebanon and other Arab countries, and to assist the United States in expanding and perpetuating its military presence in Arab territories.

The report published by the Kuwaiti AL-WATAN is significant in this regard: The report exposes the Pentagon's plan to increase the U.S. force in Lebanon to 50,000 men. AL-WATAN writes: They are already making the necessary preparations for landing in Lebanon.

MOSCOW TV HITS U.S. 'LIES' ON LEBANON EVENTS

LD241318 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 2015 GMT 23 Feb 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] The Reagan administration has again been drawn into open lying, dictated by a striving to disown any participation in the bloody crimes of the Israeli military in Lebanon. Not long ago leading U.S. newspapers made a great sensation out of reports that the U.S. Administration has, supposedly, made a decision to refuse to sign an agreement with Israel which would, in particular, allow Washington to obtain intelligence data from Tel Aviv. And now it has become clear that these reports, whose appearance was inspired by the White House, are nothing but a lie whose aim is to mislead the American and world public.

As the informed magazine NEWSWEEK reports in its latest issue, the Reagan administration had been actively working behind the scenes to achieve such an agreement with Tel Aviv. And new Israeli Defense Minister Arens has already agreed in principle with Weinberger on drafting such an agreement.

The Reagan administration is not resorting for the first time to lies and clumsy maneuvers when it is a matter of U.S. policy to give all-round support to Israeli's expansionist course. U.S. Government spokesmen have, for example, publicly declared that they, supposedly, knew nothing about the aggression Tel Aviv was planning in Lebanon. However, former Israeli Defense Minister Sharon has openly admitted that Pentagon chief Weinberger and former Secretary of State Haig not only were informed about Israel's invasion plans but even approved them.

It was a crude lie when an official Pentagon spokesman affirmed that on the eve of the Lebanon invasion the United States had not increased the volume of arms supplies to Israel. Data from the U.S. Department of Defense bear witness to the fact that in the first quarter of last year alone the volume of supplies of U.S. weapons to Tel Aviv was 10 times the level of the same period in 1980 and 40 percent up from the 1981 level.

The reason why the Reagan administration resorts to lies and blatant juggling of the facts is evident: By that means it is trying to conceal its complicity in the flagrant crimes of Israel in Lebanon.

BENDJEDID-HASSAN MEETING 'FIRST POSITIVE STEP'

LD020045 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 1 Feb 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by A. Timoshkin]

[Text] The meeting between Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Morocco's King Hassan II has met with a positive reaction in the Arab world. Their talks were a first positive step on the road of settling bilateral relations that became tense as a result of the Western Sahara problem. As Maghreb press commentators have said, it goes without saying that difficulties still face the final solution to the problem of the former Spanish colony and settling Algerian-Moroccan relations. However, it can be said now that the Arab leaders' political good sense and their desire to ensure the vital national interests of their countries and peoples are prevailing.

There is, moreover, something else: The imperialists and neocolonialists were openly pleased at the conflict over the Western Sahara; they constantly fanned the flames of this conflict, and are still exploiting it to expand their forward positions in the Maghreb. Those who are most enthusiastic about this are the U.S. imperialists, who are seeking to impose their military presence on this part of the Arab world.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, constantly works for settling all Arab differences politically on the basis of respecting and protecting the Arabs' national interests and ensuring their solidarity in the struggle against the forces of aggression and neocolonialism.

USSR-PDRY COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED IN MOSCOW

LD262046 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] A plan for increased scientific and cultural cooperation between the USSR and the PDRY has been signed in Moscow. The audience in one of the halls of the Soviet Foreign Ministry greeted with applause the start of a new stage of the program for scientific and cultural cooperation between the USSR and the PDRY. Indeed, if we examine the articles of the plan for Soviet-PDRY cultural cooperation for 1983-84 we will find in it many important points beneficial to both sides.

Let us take the part which deals with cooperation in training national cadres of PDRY specialists. It becomes clear from the figures that this field of cooperation will be greatly widened. The Soviet side has undertaken to provide further training at the request of the PDRY experts. The new specialization include advanced mathematics, [words indistinct].

At the request of the PDRY the Soviet Union will send a further number of Soviet teachers, including higher education teachers. The program for cultural exchange, which provides for exchanges of artists, sports delegations, joint scientific seminars and exchanges among colleagues with similar specializations, will be greatly widened. In brief this will be a new stage in quality and quantity [words indistinct] Soviet-PDRY cultural and scientific cooperation.

The head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Cultural Relations Department, [name indistinct], speaking about the state of this cooperation when addressing the PDRY guests led by PDRY Ambassador in Moscow Salih Abu Bakr, said.

[Begin recording in Russian fading into Arabic translation] Dear comrade and respected ambassador, dear PDRY guests, we evaluate the plan signed today as an indivisible part of the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. We are confident that our cultural and scientific cooperation will play its role in the continuation of the development and consolidation of relations between our two countries and peoples. [applause] [end recording]

The PDRY ambassador made a speech of greetings in which he pointed to the extreme importance of the plan, and said:

[Begin recording] We sign today an agreement in one of the most important fields for the development of Soviet-Yemeni cooperation. This is the 23d signing of such an agreement during the last 14 years, and it is not strange for us to sign this agreement and protocol with the USSR because the two countries are linked by close and developed relations. This cooperation is progressing steadily in the light of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed by the two friendly countries. [end recording]

FURTHER ON CONCLUSION OF PALESTINE COUNCIL SESSION

CPSU Congratulates 'Arafat

LD261155 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet have sent the following telegram to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation:

"Accept our heartfelt congratulations and greetings in connection with your re-election as chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"The successful completion of the 16th session of the National Council of Palestine, which adopted an important program document, has demonstrated the cohesion of the Palestine resistance movement and strengthened confidence that the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine will triumph. The presence at the session of prominent politicians, members of parliament and representatives of the public of many countries was further confirmation of the high international prestige won by the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"We wish you, your comrades-in-arms and all Palestinian patriots further successes in the struggles for the exercise of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and for a just peace in the Middle East."

'Arafat Statement on Session

LD262304 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Algeria interviewed Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, at the end of the 16th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC]. Here is what he said:

[Begin recording] The 16th session of the PNC that was held in Algiers is one of the important events in the march of the Palestinian revolution. The session came after the heroic and brave fighting by our forces shoulder to shoulder with the joint forces against the Israeli attack, which enjoyed unlimited support from U.S. imperialism -- military support, political support, diplomatic support and economic support. Despite this our forces and the joint forces were able to resist, confront, stand fast and fight bravely.

Then came the departure of our forces from Beirut. The U.S. forces and the American envoy Reagan [as heard] wagered on the liquidation and elimination of the Palestinian forces exactly like their dream of concluding their military operation against us in Lebanon in 48 hours, that is in 2 days, or in 72 hours, that is in 3 days, and the operation would be over. But this was the longest Arab-Israeli war. And as this military operation, the heroic and epic battle, disappointed all their expectations, we must also say that the second miracle after the miracle of steadfastness and the epic battle in Beirut was the speed of the reorganization of our forces and our institutions and the reorganization and remaking of our political infrastructure which they banked on being finished.

From the research institute in Beirut which was destroyed to the military council [words indistinct] to further cohesion between us and our people inside the occupied land. One of the objectives of the military campaign was the [word indistinct] our people inside the occupied land and [words indistinct] came this 16th session of the PNC to embody all these meanings which we have mentioned, and to confirm beyond doubt the ability of the Palestinian revolution, the capability of the PLO, the unity of the Palestinian fighters, the unity of our people inside the occupied land [words indistinct].

From the first day of the session bloody demonstrations took place in our occupied land in support of the PNC and they did not stop, to the extent that the Israeli military governor was forced to declare curfew in a number of cities and [words indistinct].

I say these things because this session came in all these circumstances which are extremely complicated [words indistinct]. They believed they could have control of the whole region. Of course I can say now in the name of all my brother fighters, in the name of the PNC, [words indistinct] remains that the PLO is the difficult and basic figure in the Middle East equation and there will be no solution, peace or stability in the Middle East region by evading the firm national rights, including our right to return, to self-determination and to the creation of our own independent state on our Palestinian national soil with Jerusalem as its capital.

On this occasion I thank my brothers in Algeria, President Chadli and the heroic Algerian people, the people of the 1.5 million martyrs, and all our friends in the world who stood by us during the hard times and the siege, and in particular our friends in the socialist countries, foremost of whom is the friendly USSR. From here I say to our friends in the world, thank you for all that you have provided to our people and be confident that your Palestinian friends are standing in this forward trench not only in defense of the Palestinian revolution and people but also in defense of all that is free, progressive and honest in this region and the entire world. [end recording]

Al-Fahum Praises Soviet Support

PM281659 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[Report by PRAVDA and TASS correspondents Yu. Vladimirov and K. Dudarev: "We Are Proud of the Friendship With the Soviet Union"]

[Text] Algiers, Feb 21 -- International political circles are following with close attention the current 16th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC], the supreme PLO organ, which is taking place here.

"The current session is especially significant," said PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum during a conversation with us. "It is taking place under conditions of a broad offensive launched by the United States for the purpose of establishing U.S. domination in the Middle East. This is furthered by the policy of Israel's ruling circles and some Arab regimes. They are making insistent attempts to impose upon us the so-called 'Reagan plan' for the Middle East. We reject these attempts.

"As chairman of the PNC and on behalf of all Palestinian people I declare that the Soviet Union is our great and real friend. We value and are proud of this friendship.

"We have noted that the decisions of the Fes conference of Arab heads of state and governments are of a positive nature and can serve as a basis for rallying the Arab ranks.

"The support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries for our rights was again confirmed at the recent conference of the Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Pact member-states," Khalid al-Fahum concluded.

PRAVDA Reviews Political Resolution

PM251339 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Session Has Finished Work"]

[Text] Algiers, 23 Feb --The work of the 16th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC] has ended in the Algerian capital.

Its participants elected a new PLO Executive Committee and reelected Yasir 'Arafat as chairman. The political resolution -- the approved policy document -- defines the Palestinian resistance movement's strategy for the period ahead.

The PNC session delegates, the resolution says, confirm their unshakable resolve to staunchly resist the imperialist and Zionist offensive and to continue the struggle in the political and military spheres in the name of the implementation of the Palestinian Arabs' inalienable national rights.

The Palestinian parliamentary deputies consider it necessary to strengthen ties with the Arab national liberation movement in joint opposition to the imperialist-Zionist plots and specifically to the Camp David agreements and the so-called "Reagan plan" for the Near East, and in the struggle to liberate the captured Arab lands. The U.S. "draft," the resolution stresses, does not meet the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights in either form or content. Furthermore, the Washington plan runs counter to international law. For these reasons, the resolution says, the PNC members reject the U.S. proposals.

The session participants, the policy document points out, approve the Soviet Near East proposals, which express full support for the Palestinians' rights to self-determination and the creation of their own independent state. They express profound gratitude to all the socialist countries for their solidarity with the Arab peoples' just struggle.

The PNC expressed support for the decisions of the Fes conference of heads of Arab states and governments.

The resolution contains an appeal to strengthen solidarity with the Lebanese people and that country's national patriotic forces and also with fraternal Syria which, together with the Palestinian resistance movement, is in the front line of the struggle against the imperialist-Zionist alliance. The session instructed the PLO Executive Committee to begin talks with leaders of the steadfastness and confrontation front states with the aim of activating its work.

The resolution indicates the importance of the development of relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples in the interests of implementing the Palestinian Arabs' national rights. These relations should be based on recognition of the PLO as the Palestinian Arab people's sole legitimate representative. As for future relations with Jordan, the political resolution notes, they must be based on a confederal alliance between two independent states.

Y. 'Arafat, who addressed the closing session, sharply condemned the role of the United States which is giving limitless assistance to Israel in its aggressive actions against the Arab countries.

Andreyev Views Sessions' Results

LD251225 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Nikolay Andreyev commentary: "An Historical Meeting"]

[Text] The Western media, especially the U.S. media, were not sparing in giving ominous prophecies before the commencement of the 16th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC] held in Algiers. They prophesied the failure of the session, splits in the PLO, the surrender of the Palestinians, the adoption of the so-called Reagan plan and so on. But nothing of this sort happened. The 16th PNC session proved the calculations of the imperialists wrong. This session, held in Algiers, was a real session of a parliament, which does not differ from any other session of a high legislative body in any sovereign state. The session displayed the high standard of organization of the Palestinian revolution and demonstrated the increasing good reputation the PLO enjoys on the international level.

The session was attended by 130 delegations from 90 countries, representing various political parties, social organizations, parliaments and governments, which expressed their support for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people and its just cause.

The 16th PNC session has become, in its substance, an historical meeting that contributed to a great extent toward increasing the cohesion of all Palestinian organizations and the coordination of a new strategy for the Palestinian revolution in face of the increasing aggressiveness of U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism.

The members of the PNC were guided by the ultimate interests of the Palestinian people when they rejected the so-called Reagan plan as a basis for settlement in the Middle East. The political decision stated that this plan, in its form and substance, does not agree with the legitimate rights of the Palestinians; it especially denies their right to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to establish their independent state. Reagan's plan does not recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Proceeding from all this, and from the facts that indicate Washington's increasing support for the expansionist Israeli Zionists plans, the political resolution adopted by the 16th PNC session points out that the United States remains the worst enemy of the Arab peoples.

The PNC show of support for the Fes declaration, as the minimum acceptable level for settlement in the Middle East, did not contradict the previous PNC resolutions and is indicative of the constructive steps taken at the session held in Algeria.

The session paid great attention to the issues of consolidating Arab unity and solidarity with the Lebanese and Syrian peoples, which are in the front line of struggle against the Israeli aggression and its protectors. The session entrusted the PLO Executive Committee to hold negotiations with the leaders of the member-states of the steadfastness and confrontation front to invigorate this organization on a sound and firm basis.

It was pointed out, again, that the future of the Arab national liberation movement depends to a great extent on the firmness of the bonds of friendship and cooperation with the USSR and other members of the socialist community, the Nonaligned Movement and all the progressive forces in the world.

It is worth mentioning that the Jordanian-Palestinian confederation is not acceptable until after the establishment of a national Palestinian state.

The conclusions of the 16th PNC session held in Algiers have stimulated varied reaction throughout the world. In the case of all the progressive forces in the world, as well as the Arab countries and the Palestinians, they have stimulated feelings of satisfaction. These conclusions are considered a great victory for the Palestinian revolution, especially for the PLO. Rashad ash-Shawwa, the mayor of the Gaza sector, said: The resolutions adopted by the 16th PNC session agree with the hopes of the population of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza sector. Ilyas Frayj, the mayor of Bethlehem, and many representatives of the Palestinians expressed the same opinion. The conclusions of the session disappointed Israel and the United States. The Zionist press does not hide its feeling that the Algiers meeting did not fulfill their hopes of splitting the Palestinian resistance movement and the PLO. This reaction by the enemy indicates the great success of the meeting of the highest Palestinian authority. It is clear that the documents of the 16th PNC session will be studied and analyzed for a long time. There is no doubt that this session was a complete success.

U.S. Reaction to Session

LD252035 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Commentary by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. On several occasions, President Reagan has reviewed the U.S. tactical and strategic objectives in the Middle East. The resident of the White House has addressed his statements to various listeners: to the American Jews, to the commanders of the American corps [as heard] and to American journalists. On each occasion, he affirmed to his listeners America's strict commitment to guarantee Israel's security, to oppose the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to bring other Arab countries into the Camp David accords -- which are capitulationist to the Arabs.

All this is not new and is well known. However, in his midweek speech to American journalists, President Reagan made an interesting admission. He said that time was not on our side, meaning that it was not in the interest of the United States and Israel. He was referring here to the scope of Middle East settlements on Washington's and Tel Aviv's terms. The U.S. President advised Israel and his own administration to hurry things up for this.

What prompted the American President Reagan to make this admission? Gentlemen, I believe I would not be far from the truth if I were to say that the strongest motive behind this admission was the results of the Palestine National Council [PNC] meeting in Algiers. These results contain nothing encouraging for Washington. The United States had earnestly hoped that rifts would develop within the ranks of the Palestine resistance, thereby enabling the United States to impose the well-known Reagan plan on the Palestinians. But none of this has happened.

The PNC has rejected the Reagan neo-imperialist plan, which was incompatible in both form and content with the national aspirations and hopes of the Palestinian people and with the finding of a just and comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East. Furthermore, many of the Arab and non-Arab delegations who attended the PNC as guests have fully supported the Palestinian people's determination to continue their just struggle by all legitimate means in support of their just cause. The PNC meeting in Algeria also clearly showed the Arabs' determination to close their ranks and resources in the struggle to eliminate all traces of the imperialist-Israeli aggression. Furthermore, there are growing tendencies in the Arab world toward reviving solidarity in struggle. This positive tendency has been forging its way toward Egypt too.

All this made the Reagan administration worry and prompted it to rush to impose its plan on the Arabs. President Reagan came to realize that his plan was not popular with the Arabs. So he began to introduce new elements in it. It was for this reason that he said in his speech to the American journalists that the Palestinian factor must not be ignored in all matters pertaining to a settlement in the Middle East and to guaranteeing Israel's security. He said we -- meaning Washington and Tel Aviv -- cannot continue to refuse to give the Palestinians a homeland. But the U.S. President rushed on to say that under no circumstances did he mean establishing an independent state of Palestine. Reagan did not mention a single word about the future of the numerous Jewish settlements that were and are being built in the occupied Arab territories, because Tel Aviv considers these lands to be a part of Israel. Since this is so, where does the U.S. President hope to find a homeland for the Palestinians?

In this regard, AFP recalls a statement uttered by Arens, the new Israeli defense minister, in this same week to the effect that the Palestinian homeland already exists and that it is in Jordan. Washington did not attempt to object to this statement.

On the contrary, the Reagan administration rushed to force Jordan to join the Camp David process. In practice, this will mean burying all hopes for the realization of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate national rights headed by their right to establish their independent state on their homeland.

In his speech to American journalists, President Reagan touched on the situation in Lebanon and the surrounding area. He said that it is indeed sad that we have to wait for the signing of a peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon before we can solve the question of evacuating Israeli forces from Lebanon. However, he did not mention one single word about how the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon can be effected. Instead, he reiterated America's readiness to increase the number of its forces in Lebanon within the framework of the multinational forces. It must be mentioned here that the United States works to prolong the stay of its forces in Lebanon.

How can we conciliate this and with what Washington has been clamoring about its desire to bring about the evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon? The conclusion is that however hard we try to find anything new in President Reagan's statements, we can never find anything beneficial for the Arabs. Thank you, and peace be with you.

U.S.-ISRAELI EXPLOITATION OF GULF WAR EXAMINED

PM281437 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 83 p 3

[P. Mezentsev abbreviated reprint of article appearing in NOVOYE VREMYA No 9: "Iran-Iraq: Who Needs This War?"]

[Text] On the night of 6-7 February, after the relative lull of winter, during which military operations on the Iran-Iraq front were for the most part limited to artillery exchanges and aerial bombardments, Iranian forces undertook a large-scale offensive operation in the region of the population center of (Ash-Shib) in the Iraqi Province of Maysan. In Tehran they called the fresh mass offensive, codenamed "Al-Fajr ("Dawn"), a definitive one. "This offensive is the final and decisive one," was at least how A. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Iranian parliament, described it.

According to foreign press assessments, 100,000 men on both sides took part in the hostilities. And both attackers and defenders suffered enormous losses. Much military hardware -- tanks, armored carriers and heavy guns -- was put out of action. Much damage was caused to civil installations in border cities, particularly in Basra, Mandali and Khanaqin (in Iraq) and Abadan (in Iran), which were subjected to heavy aerial bombardment and artillery shelling. Judging by press reports, the Iranian offensive has been halted as a result of counterattacks by Iraqi units.

Operation "Al-Fajr" is the fourth major Iranian offensive since the time when, last year, in the course of the war a turning point occurred in Iran's favor.

The war has complicated thedomestic problems of Iran and Iraq to a considerable degree. Suffice it to say that the conflict has led to a 70 percent reduction in Iraqi oil exports. According to a report in Britain's FINANCIAL TIMES, Baghdad recently appealed to a number of Persian Gulf countries for $7-billion loan, although its debt to these countries already amounts to about $33 billion. As for Iran, the fact of the recent appeal to the population by Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian revolution, in which he called on them to donate money for waging the war, which is daily costing hundreds of millions of riyals, is highly indicative. "The government's difficulties today are such that that the budget...is not covering state expenditure. It is precisely the people who must make their contribution to improving the situation which has come about," Khomeyni stated.

This all goes to show that neither side can resolve its problems by military means. Rather, the contrary. Nevertheless, the two neighboring peoples, whose destinies are so similar, have for almost 2 and 1/2 years now been trying methodically to annihilate each other, and no real signs of an early end to the bloodletting can be discerned.

From the very beginning of this senseless war the peace-loving forces of the world have called on Tehran and Baghdad to halt the bloodletting. They rightly point out that a continuation of the conflict is fraught with pernicious consequences for the countries of the Near and Middle East, which have found themselves caught in the vise of two wars. As early as last summer, during operation "Ramadan," many people were predicting that Israel, supported by the United States, would take advantage of the fact that international public opinion's attention was riveted on the Iran-Iraq war and unleash its next aggression against the Arabs, including the seizure of Beirut. And that is what did happen. "Nothing could cause greater satisfaction to Israel," the newspaper INDIAN EXPRESS wrote, "than a new exacerbation of the Iran-Iraq conflict. For Israel this is precisely the factor which is capable of distracting attention from the aggression in Lebanon and dividing still further the Arab world."

It is appropriate to ask again: Who needs this war? Naturally, neither Tehran or Baghdad. The war is not only causing enormous human casualties but also great economic damage to the two countries. From the very outset of the conflict Washington and Tel Aviv have been using it as a pretext for strengthening their positions in the Near and Middle East region.

Official circles in Washington have proclaimed U.S. "neutrality" in the Iraq-Iran conflict. In fact the "deadlock situation" suits them most of all. Highly indicative in this respect are the admissions by recently appointed Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, who as ambassador to the United States prior to this, declared that Israel, in cooperation with the United States "at virtually the highest level," is supplying arms to Iran with a view to changing the situation in that country and at "making soundings" as to whether it is possible to find certain spheres of contact with the Iranian military in order to overthrow Ayatollah Khomeyni's regime. In unison with this frank avowal by the inveterate Israeli "hawk," the JOURNAL OF JUDAISM AND ZIONISM, the unofficial organ of international Zionism, maintains that Iraq is in "Israel's line of sight" and that its "collapse" would hold great significance for Israel.

Both Baghdad and Tehran are obviously aware of where their common enemy, which is seeking to fuel tension and fan local conflicts, including in the Near and Middle East, is to be found. The intervention in Lebanon by America's ally, Israel, is just the latest evidence of the way that unstable regions in the world are being exploited for the militarist interests of the United States, which has launched a broad offensive against the world's national liberation forces.

SHEFTUNOV ON ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN IRAN

NC261437 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1200 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Excerpts] Greetings dear listeners: The 26th of February marks the 62nd anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Iranian agreement. In its prologue it is stated that our two countries have signed this agreement with the desire to establish firm, good-neighborly relations for the future. The Soviet Government, headed by Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, declared the basic principles of these relations in the decree on peace, which was the first decree to be issued after the victory of the Socialist October Revolution.

The signing of the Soviet-Iranian agreement has become effective in helping to defend its independence. By relying on this agreement and on the support of the Soviet Union, Iran was able to abrogate the binding agreement which Britain had imposed on your country and which actually turned your country into a British colony.

Article I of the Soviet-Iranian agreement points out that the Soviet Government desires that the Iranian nation be independent and prosperous and freely use its wealth. Throughout the 62 years since the signing of this agreement, the Soviet Union has continuously been striving toward these ends, and this at a time when our two countries' relations have been through complicated stages. Interested in the fact that its closest neighbor should be an independent and prosperous country, the Soviet Union supported Iran's decision to abrogate the capitulation regime as well as the Iranians' movement for the nationalization of the oil industry and the ousting of the British-Iranian oil company. The Soviet Union has assisted Iran in the construction of national steel and machine building industries as well as of other industries. It has also expanded commercial relations with Iran, namely, in the transit of goods, on the basis of the principles of equality.

When speaking of the 62nd anniversary of the Soviet-Iranian agreement, it should also be stressed that in implementing its policy, even at the most critical of moments, the Soviet Union precisely, persistently and very uprightly observes the principles of this document.

When 4 years ago the Iranian people rose against the imperiousness of the U.S. monopolies and their puppet, the shah, who, as confessed by Iran's present foreign minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, had turned Iran into the 51st state of America, Washington immediately wanted to nip the bud the Iranian revolution by armed intervention. General Huyser, deputy commander-in-chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe, was sent to Iran for this purpose. In the face of this attempt, the Soviet Union, pursuing its commitment stipulated in the agreement on recognizing the right of each nation and of the Iranian people to a independent and unhindered determination of their political fate, very decisively declared that it would not allow the United States to impose its will and desires on the Iranian people, our friends. Washington was unable to implement its aggressive plans against Iran at that time. The Islamic revolution won and the Islamic Republic of Iran was declared. These incidents once again very clearly showed the existence of two extremely conflicting approaches to the new Iran. On the one hand, there was the Soviet Union's favorable views and support for the Iranian revolution and on the other, there was the hatred and hostility felt by the United States. Nevertheless, there still exist circles in Iran which obstinately try to equate the socialist Soviet Union with the imperialist United States. In addition, existing facts and figures show that these completely conservative and rightist groups are gaining strength in Iran. This is seen at a time when Iran is passing through one of its most critical moments in history.

The United States is now blatantly threatening Iran with armed aggression. The United States has stationed a large armada near the Persian Gulf. It is also stationing its Rapid Deployment Force along the Iranian border and it is building military bases there.

On the basis of the agreement which it signed 62 years ago with Iran and in which it is requested that the objectives of world imperialism in ensuring methods for military penetration be thwarted, the Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries have proposed an initiative on turning the Persian Gulf and the entire Indian Ocean into areas of peace and on the dismantling of all foreign military bases in this region. This Soviet stance conforms with Iran's vital interests to the same extent as the U.S. stance is contrary to these interests. But this time, too, Tehran's conservative circles, with their pedantry about the intrigues of the two superpowers, try to calumniate the Soviet Union, to reverse its peace-loving policy and to equate the friends and foes of the Iranian people.

This stance is nothing but an intentional effort to fool the Iranian masses and to blind the oppressed and deprived toilers of Iran who fulfilled the revolution and who are trying to defend it. The matter has reached such a point that the supporters of the expansion of Soviet-Iranian good-neighborly relations are threatened. People employed in various fields and of various ages in Tehran and in other Iranian cities expressed their rage and hatred to me over the anti-Sovietist activities, the basis of which was laid by Iran's reaction during my visit [to Iran] in the autumn. These activities naturally enrage the Soviet people, too. As pointed out by PRAVDA in its editorial some days ago, reactionary circles are weakening the bases of Soviet-Iranian relations even though these relations are undoubtedly in Iran's interests and help it to resist imperialist pressures.

The Soviet-Iranian agreement which was signed exactly 62 years ago today, too, is an example of a document which is aimed at the expansion of equal and good-neighborly relations. The Soviet-Iranian agreement should, in the future, too, be aimed at the fulfillment of this same objective to the benefit of our two nations and for the sake of peace and progress.

Dear listeners, I thank you for your attention and wish you success.

ARTICLE ON U.S.-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS REVIEWED

LD250946 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 24 Feb 83

[From "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] The weekly supplement AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI publishes an article by professor of economics and political science Hasan Nafi' in which he analyzes the history and scope of Egyptian-U.S. relations. The main theme of the article is that Washington has always been openly hostile to the nationalist forces and the national interests of Egypt. Analyzing Egyptian-U.S. relations in the era of President 'Abd an-Nasir the author reaches the fully logical conclusion that the roots of this crisis lie in the independent foreign and domestic policies of the revolutionary Egyptian leadership during the days of President 'Abd an-Nasir, its strong refusal to participate in the pro-American military blocs and the strong support of the Egyptian revolution for the anti-imperialist national liberation movements in the Arab world and Africa. What disappointed Washington in 'Abd an-Nasir's domestic policy was his efforts to develop the country's national economy along progressive lines, a matter which was fully in agreement with Egypt's expectation of economic independence.

The author says that Washington had tried many times during the era of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir to punish Egypt with a thick stick. It was the one that instigated and protected the two imperialist aggressions against Egypt in 1956 and 1967. The United States resorted many times to sanctions against revolutionary Egypt, including its inhumane refusal to sell grain to Egypt. The author goes on to say that the United States always uses economic aid to Egypt as a means of pressure and as a weapon for the achievements of its selfish objectives.

The author then analyzes Egyptian-U.S. relations during the era of President as-Sadat and says that the U.S. satisfaction with Egypt during that era was only a payment for the abandonment of its independent national policy at home and abroad and for its huge concessions in the face of Washington's imperialistic ambitions. At the same time Washington has not been willing to give up the policy of unlimited support for Israel and its expansionist designs over Arab countries.

REPORTAGE ON MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT'S MOSCOW TALKS

Meets Tikhonov

LD011623 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov had a meeting today with chairman of the Frelimo Party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique Samora Moises Machel now staying in Moscow on a friendly working visit.

During the conversation Nikolay Tikhonov and Samora Moises Machel discussed questions of Soviet-Mozambique relations that are developing successfully on a durable basis of the treaty of friendship and cooperation. Special attention was paid to the development of economic and commercial relations between the USSR and the People's Republic of Mozambique. It was stressed that these relations have good prospects for their further all-round development. The main directions of this development have been set out in the long-term programme of economic and commercial cooperation for the period of 1981-1990.

The meeting passed in a friendly, comradely atmosphere.

Meets Gromyko

LD011647 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko had a meeting today with the chairman of the Frelimo Party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique Samora Moises Machel, who is in Moscow on a friendly working visit.

They discussed questions stemming from the mutual striving of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Mozambique to further develop and deepen their relations, as well as pressing international problems of mutual interest.

The meeting passed in an atmosphere of comradeship and mutual understanding.

Meets Ustinov

LD020924 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 2 TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of defence of the USSR, has met today Marshal Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The sides have had a useful exchange of opinion on questions of mutual interest during their conversation, which has passed in a businesslike and comradely atmosphere.

CUBAN GENERAL BATISTA VISITS USSR 21-28 FEB

PM011119 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Cuban Guest's Stay"]

[Text] Division General S. Batista, candidate member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Politburo and chief of the Central Political Directorate of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, was in the Soviet Union from 21 through 28 February. On behalf of the Cuban State Council he presented the Order of Antonio Maceo to the M.V. Frunze Military Academy, the Marshal of the Soviet Union R.Ya. Malinovskiy Military Academy of Armored Troops, the Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Timoshenko Military Academy of Chemical Defense, and the Military Academy of Rear Services and Transportation. The academies have been given this award for their services in training highly skilled cadres for the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Division General S. Batista also presented "combat collaboration" medals to a group of generals and officers from military educational establishments and to the Soviet authors of the joint Soviet-Cuban work "Courage and Fraternity" ["Muzhestvo i Bratstvo"].

In Moscow the chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces Central Political Directorate attended events to mark the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

Division General S. Batista was received by Army General A.A. Yepishev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. The talk which they had took place in a fraternal, cordial atmosphere.

On 28 February Division General S. Batista flew home.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON SOVIET AID TO NICARAGUA

PM261107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 83 First Edition p 6

[Report by PRAVDA special correspondent P. Bogomolov: "The Calling Card Reads: Friendship and Selflessness"]

[Excerpt] Managua, February -- Under the difficult conditions of imperialist blockade Nicaragua is successfully developing mutually beneficial and equal relations with the Soviet Union.

The development of the power industry has become one of the main avenues of this cooperation. The utilization of the water resources of fast-flowing mountain rivers offers particular prospects for the Nicaraguan economy. It is planned to build a number of GES's with aid from the Soviet Union which will enable Nicaragua to significantly reduce the volume of expensive oil exports, on which the country is currently forced to spend one-third of its entire export revenue.

The Nicaraguans are also given aid in the study and total utilization of land resources and the development of agriculture. Geology and forestry are also included in the sphere of joint activity by our countries.

A start has been made in joint research into Nicaragua's fishery resources, aimed at their fuller and more rational utilization. Work is in progress in inland reservoirs, as well as in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The crew of the Antiya, a scientific research vessel of the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry, is participating actively in this work.

"We are glad of any opportunity to respond tangibly to the Soviet comrades for their aid," I was told by Alvaro Murillo, chief of the administration for cooperation with socialist countries at the Nicaraguan Ministry of Planning. "The republic already delivers to the USSR sugar, cotton and coffee. In time, the volume of these exports could grow significantly. I would like to note the full equality of rights in our relations. While granting us large aid, the Soviet Government does not bind it with any political conditions.

"Recently a part of our import purchases remained unfulfilled through the fault of the United States and its closest allies. In response to our wishes, the Soviet Union and the other socialist states are studying possibilities for helping Nicaraguan enterprises which are now without raw materials, semi-manufactures, semi-processed products, components and spare parts. In a number of cases metal billets from the USSR, synthetic materials from the GDR and components for the production of soft drinks from the CSSR have already successfully replaced things which previously came from capitalist countries...."

Broad recognition has been given to the work of Soviet medical workers who came to Nicaragua through the Red Cross and have established a tent hospital in the city of Chinandega.

"Initially it was assumed that the Soviet doctors would be here for 1 month," the republic's deputy minister of health, I. Tercero, said, "so as to help the people of Nicaragua's northwestern region who had suffered from last June's floods. Their work, however, turned out to be much more than expected. At our government's request the hospital collective has stayed to continue its humane mission."

...A vacant lot at the edge of the small provincial town. A stone house with three operating theaters and several wards for the seriously ill. All around it, the tarpaulin domes of tents. Such is the appearance of this hospital complex, where we were met by medical group chief Yu.I. Koval. On a tour of the hospital he showed us the reception area, the surgery, treatment and isolation wards, the polyclinic, first aid department and intensive care unit.

Tens of thousands of patients were given medical assistance here and about a thousand operations: these are the basic results of the work by the collective of internationalist Soviet doctors. For many Nicaraguans the labor of our medical workers has been the first calling card of the Soviet country. Among them was the nun (Esperansa Vilcheye) who, together with four nurses, was sent here by the Josephinian Catholic order.

"I am glad to help the Soviet nurses and doctors," she said.

"I often say that I was educated in a spirit of suspicion and mistrust for everything connected with the USSR. But then I met your medical workers.... I am happy that in my late years it so happened that I met and came to love Moscow's emissaries, good, responsive and selfless people."

Words like these are to be heard not only at the hospital named for Soviet-Nicaraguan friendship. They are spoken throughout the country by farm workers and fishermen, artisans and students.

PRAVDA CONDEMNS CARIBBEAN MILITARY ALLIANCE

LD261344 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2248 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] Moscow 26 (TASS) -- The establishment of an aggressive military alliance in Latin America is viewed as yet another step in the cause of whipping up tension in the Caribbean basin, Nikolay Ognev writes in PRAVDA, commenting on the organization under the aegis of Washington and London, of a new militaristic bloc of the "regional forces of security and defense" in the western Atlantic area.

Five small island states in the Caribbean basin have joined it: Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica and Saint Lucia.

The commentary says that many political figures from neighboring states have called this military grouping "the brainchild of the United States and Britain." "And not without foundation. Literally immediately after the bloc was formed Washington and London gave it full allowances. The United States and Britain allocated about $5 million for its needs, supplied patrol boats and motor torpedo-boats and sent material aid."

"The regional security and defense forces" are essentially the embodiment of the Anglo-American idea of setting up a police corps in the Caribbean sea region," the author stresses," and therefore, of course, the main purpose of the bloc is not, as its creators are asserting, the interests of the national security of the member-countries of the alliance. (Since no one at all has threatened or is threatening them) and not to defend them from mythical 'foreign enemies.'"

"American and British strategists are planning to turn the new miltiary-police organization into its outpost for the fight against the national liberation movements in the Caribbean basin, the progressive press of the region believes. Furthermore, the bloc has been summoned to be a peculiar 'cordon sanitaire' alongside Cuba and Grenada, which Washington finds disagreeable, and to help the United States isolate them. It is not fortuitous that neither Cuba nor Grenada were even invited to join this regional 'security pact.'"

CONGRESS OBJECTS TO CIA PLANS FOR GRENADA

LD281345 Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Washignton February 28 TASS -- Expanding the scale of its interference in Central America with a view to suppressing the national liberation movement, the Reagan administration worked out in the summer of 1981 a plan of destablising the government of Grenada which embarked on an independent path of development that did not suit Washington. The implementation of the plan, masterminded by the CIA, was barred at the last moment due to objections in Congress. This is reported by the newspaper WASHINGTON POST, which quotes informed circles in the government and Congress.

The plan was contemplated as a "classical" secret operation of the CIA, which has long since accumulated vast experience of dirty subversive activities in foreign countries. The U.S. espionage agency, the newspaper reports, intended, in particular, to cause artificial economic difficulties in Grenada with a view to undermining "political control" over the country exercised by its legitimate government. The Reagan administration, as follows from the article, is enraged, in particular, by Grenada's growing links with socialist Cuba.

Although the CIA-planned operation has not been carried out, Washington has not abandoned its sinister designed altogether. According ot THE WASHINGTON POST, the U.S. Administration continues to follow closely Grenada's policy. Groupings of anti-Grenada rabble have found shelter on U.S. territory.

THE WASHINGTON POST does not know details of the plan, but it is clear that it is in full accordance with the policy of the Reagan administration, which is trying to undermine the positions of independent governments in Central American countries, including Nicaragua. At the same time the United States is expanding military and economic support for the bloody, anti-people dictatorships, like those in El Salvador and Honduras.

The newspaper report exposes once again the true face of the self-styled "fighters against international terrorism" from the Potomac banks.

IZVESTIYA ON PROGRESS SINCE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS

PM251423 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Following Lenin's Course"]

[Text] Two years have elapsed since that memorable February day in Moscow when the regular 26th CPSU Congress -- the supreme forum of the land of soviets' Communists -- began its work. The congress' work and the documents it adopted were a major historic landmark in the life of the party and all Soviet society. The congress opened up broad new horizons of socioeconomic progress for our country and all its republics; outlined ways to effectively realize the mighty economic, scientific, technical and spiritual potential of the society of developed socialism; and provided the party and people with a specific and clear program of activity for many years. The chief concern in the congress' decisions was the working man, his needs, requirements and harmonious development.

"The 26th CPSU Congress," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of our party Central Committee, said at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum, "has given concrete form to the party's long-term strategy for the 11th 5-Year Plan and the eighties as a whole. This strategy is aimed at ensuring that Soviet people's lives improve year by year, that their labor yields increasingly substantial results, and that our socialist system reveals more fully its humanitarian essence and creative potential."

In previous 5-year plans the Soviet people achieved considerable successes in creating the material and technical base of communism, in increasing their prosperity and in the cause of raising the new man. The period between the 25th and 26th party congresses saw the adoption of the USSR Constitution, which was an important stage in the development of the entire political system of Soviet society and the further expansion and deepening of socialist democracy. The 26th CPSU Congress which adopted the "basic guidelines for the economic and social development of the USSR for 1981-1985 and for the period through 1990" equipped the party with a clear program of action in the domestic and foreign policy sphere. With scientific depth it determined the avenues of our onward movement bearing in mind Soviet society's urgent needs. The party formulated an economic strategy which envisaged a deeper shift in the economy toward the resolution of the multifarious tasks connected with improving the people's prosperity on the basis of the intensification of the whole of social production and the growth of labor productivity and quality. The congress creatively developed Marxist-Leninist teaching in conformity with the present stage and continued the elaboration of the concept of developed socialism as a necessary, law-governed and historically protracted period in the formation of the Communist system.

The main activity of the party and people at the prove stage is to improve developed socialism. This truly historic process is served by the nationwide struggle to implement the 26th CPSU Congress decisions and the 11th 5-Year Plan targets, and by widespread socialist competition to improve the efficiency and quality of work and to make the economy economical. The 2 years since the congress have shown to the full extent that the Communist Party is leading the country forward by the only true, Leninist course, the great road of creation and peace. Created by V.I. Lenin, our party exists for the people and serves the people. The party's strength lies in its unity with the people. The people's strength lies in their unity with the party and its leadership.

Soviet people respond to the daily concern of the party and state for their welfare by creative inspired labor. The past 2 years of the current 5-year plan will remain in the country's history as a time of new achievements in all area of communist building. The new attitude to labor has been shown more clearly than ever in socialist competition, that genuinely mass patriotic movement which now embraces over 100 million people. As the 26th party congress noted, socialist competition and the daily lives of labor collectives forge models of the concept of social duty, heroism and selflessness in labor and display the creativity of the masses.

As the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum stressed, the central place in our plans is occupied by measures connected with the implementation of the Food Program. In all, capital investments worth about R47 billion are being channelled into the development of agroindustrial complex sectors in the third year of the 5-year plan.

Quite a lot has been done. But there is equally hard and intensive work ahead. Labor productivity -- the main indicator of economic efficiency -- is increasing at a rate which cannot satisfy us. Plans continue to be fulfilled at the price of great expenditure and production costs. High labor, plan and state discipline is the order of the day; without it the successful implementation of the course of intensifying production is impossible. The party demands that the activeness of the working masses be increased. Its ideas, plans and appeals become a material force, as is well known, when they take hold of the masses. It is important that everyone should understand that the better we work, the better we shall live.

The most important event of the period which has elapsed was the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. It showed the whole world completely convincingly that unification into a united alliance means not simply the addition but a manifold multiplication of our creative forces. Every union republic makes an indispensable contribution to the general development of the Soviet economy and culture. All the nations and ethnic groups of the Soviet land successfully reveal their potential in the harmonious fraternal family. In such an indestructible alliance we are equal to any task. The main matter here, as the party teaches, is having the right attitude: that is what is necessary now to make the great and mighty Union of Soviet Socialist Republic stronger still.

The tasks facing the land of the soviets now are bigger and more crucial than ever before. We need lasting peace in order to fulfill them. Our motherland in a single formation with the other socilaist countries, acts as a reliable fighter for peace and security, democracy and social progress. The Peace Program for the Eighties put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress and our party's new peace initiatives indicate realistic and constructive ways of reducing the threat of war, deepening detente and developing broad cooperation in the world.

The peoples of the world can see how much the Soviet Union is doing to strengthen European security and improve the international atmosphere as a whole. We are ready to go to great lengths. We have proposed an agreement on the renunciation of all types of nuclear weapons -- both medium-range and tactical weapons -- designed for hitting targets in Europe. The Warsaw Pact states recently put forward a major initiative -- a proposal to conclude a special treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations between the states of the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic alliance. The ball is now in the West's court.

Soviet people look to the future with confidence and optimism. They link all their achievements and victories indissolubly with the activity of the Leninist Communist Party. The aims and tasks set by the party accurately reflect the aspirations and needs of all Soviet people. And by their deeds they implement the dear Communist Party's policy.

NEED FOR GREATER LABOR DISCIPLINE STRESSED

LD251757 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] In their 1983 socialist pledges, the Moscow workers planned to fulfill ahead of schedule the annual plan and the tasks for the first 3 years of the 5-year period. Among the measures on which this achievement is to be based, the strengthening of production discipline and efficient organization of work are given a prominent place, PRAVDA writes in the leading article entitled "Competition and Discipline." Without proper discipline -- labor, plan and state discipline -- Comrade Andropov noted at his meeting with Moscow machine-tool builders, we cannot advance rapidly.

Specific measures to bring about greater order in production, more efficient use of working time and a more thrifty attitude to the property of the people have been included by many participants in competition in their pledges. And this is understandable: Such measures are a major potential by the fact that introducing order more often than not requires no capital expenditure, but the effect that it has is great. As an example, the collective of Magnitostroy Trust has undertaken to carry out R270,000 worth of above-plan construction and assembly work over the year by means of reducing wasted working time alone. That is substantial extra amount. At the same time, experience convinces us that unless a slogan calling for increased discipline and better order is backed up by actual deeds, a profound analysis of the results of competition, and the introduction of front-ranking experience then collectives not only fail to move forward, sometimes they lose the gains that they have already won.

A powerful lever in the struggle for model discipline and lofty creative activity lies in the correct encouragement to those engaged in competition, the leading article recalls. This presuposes a precise calculation and objective assessment of the results of labor. If this does not exist, the measures of encouragement may not have an effect in the required direction. Correct action is taken by those who make a direct link between the struggle for discipline and successful fulfillment of the tasks of the 3d year of the 5-year period and of the pledges adopted, not only regarding the overall volume of production, but also to ensure that customers' orders are fully met. It must not be forgotten that sure success accompanies those collectives which, without waiting to be stirred into action, embark energetically during the very first months of the year on implementing the plans and who try to achieve smooth and uninterrupted work in all areas of production.

PRAVDA VIEWS QUALITIES OF 'ECONOMIC' LEADERS

PM221329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Leader and the Collective"]

[Excerpt] One of the foremost responsibilities of contemporary leaders is to maintain a healthy moral climate within their collectives and persistently strengthen labor discipline. Here, the leader himself is required in everything to set an example of self-discipline and of exactingness toward himself. After all, the question of the strengthening of discipline, as Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said during his meeting with Moscow machine tool builders; does not only apply to the workers, engineers and technical personnel. It applies to all people, starting with the ministers.

So as to claim the right to lead a collective, a person must possess yet another important quality -- a respectful attitude toward people. It is the sensitive approach toward the needs of each worker that usually results in the stability of cadres. Concern about working people means first and foremost and creation of the most favorable conditions for their labor, everyday life and relaxation. It is the duty of any administrator to insure full safety at work stations and to prevent accidents in production. Nevertheless, as evidenced by alerts received from our readers, insufficient attention is at times given to labor safety. The party committees must more decisively put right the leaders of organizations and enterprises on this score.

It is well known that it is hard to run a collective if one lacks prestige. And one can only gain the respect of others when one is devoted to the cause and is energetic, when one adheres to one's principles and develops one's relations with subordinates on the basis of mutual exactingness. This mutual exactingness excludes any indulgences from one to another, any servility or currying of favor. An administrator's maturity is also manifested in his attitude toward initiative, in whether he values the independence of action of his subordinates. All this must invariably be taken into account in the promotion of cadres.

It is necessary to reach the point where responsible positions are "closed" to people inclined to arrogance and lordly manners, and who place personal advantage above the collective's interests. For a true leader is always responsive and self-critical and maintains equal relations with all. He is just and does not waste his words. Both indifference to appraisals of his work and a desire to win favor for the collective at any price, even by means of writeups and eyewash, are equally alien to him.

It is a matter of honor for each leader to strictly observe state and plan discipline and firmly defend the interests of the whole people in any situation. The party committees which encourage this striving among the cadres and demand from them the execution of their duties, are acting correctly. Cases are, however, known where the workers in party organs, for parochial or other reasons, incite the economic executives to violate state procedures.

Thus last year considerable resources were directed to Karaganda, where the housing problem is still acute, for the industrial base here is firm and the constructors were able to tackle the target, thus making it possible to provide cadres for the coal mines and other enterprises. But at the initiative -- or more correctly under the pressure -- of the Karaganda Obkom, the economic leaders were forced to switch the construction collectives to the construction of a "prestige" project, a circus. For some reason the obkom workers wanted to hold a festive meeting just before the new year precisely at the circus although there are sufficient suitable buildings for this purpose in the town. The meeting was held, but the plan for the commissioning of housing has been fundamentally wrecked. And this is not the first time that people here have resorted to arbitrary methods of leadership. Such practices are incompatible with the Leninist principles of work. They harm the cause and badly affect the atmosphere within collectives.

The party committees are called upon to nurture in the cadres a spirit of high responsibility for the sector assigned to them and the ability to work in a businesslike manner, without speechifying or paper-shuffling. They should take strictly to task those who work in the old ways and whose methods of leadership are not in line with the requirements of the times. It was said at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum that inactivity and irresponsibility must have the most immediate effect upon the material remuneration, service position and moral authority of workers.

The third, pivotal year of the 5-year plan is upon us. Many urgent matters await us. If the leader does not cope with them and forgets his duty, the communists and workers have the right to call the administrator to account most rigorously. There are numerous possibilities to do this. First and foremost it is important to raise the militancy of primary party organizations and enhance the role of trade unions.

We have many capable and experienced leaders. Today they have a common concern -- to rally the collectives for the successful fulfillment of the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan. The greater the number of harmonious and militant collectives, the faster will be our progress toward the set goals.

ROLE OF PEOPLE'S CONTROL COMMITTEES HIGHLIGHTED

'Report and Election Meetings'

PM250841 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "People's Controllers Report Back"]

[Excerpt] Report and election meetings have now begun in the people's control organs. This important, crucial campaign is taking place in an atmosphere which testifies that the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum have met with a lively response in labor collectives and that active work has been launched in the collectives to improve labor organization, increase discipline and seek new reserves.

The people's controllers are called upon to analyze their work in this light and look carefully at what has been done and what is left undone. After all, there are still a good many production committees and groups which operate timidly, often carry out checks for trivial reasons and confine themselves to recording shortcomings. In this connection individual committees and groups in Krasnoyarsk Kray, the Karakalpak ASSR and Nikolayev and Mangyshlak Oblasts deserve reproach. There are instances of a purely formal approach to organizing control. For instance, Vyshniy Volochek Gorkom in Kalinin Oblast has on six occasions heard the explanations of the leaders of the Pianino factory on the nonfulfillment of plans and instances of mismanagement. Resolutions have been adopted, but the enterprise still does not cope with targets. The factory's people's control group also fails to display initiative and persistence and acts passively.

In the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November 1982 Plenum still greater urgency is attached to tasks in strengthening discipline in every way, efficiently fulfilling state plans and targets and ensuring the strictest policy of economy and thrift. The responsibility of people's control organs is also increasing. They must step up work in verifying the execution of party directives, Soviet laws and government decisions and persistently eradicate mismanagement and extravagance, red tape, bureaucracy and localistic tendencies.

Meetings of working people and conferences of representatives of labor collectives in connection with the reports and elections of [People's Control] Committees, groups and posts take place in February-April, which makes it possible to hold them unhurriedly, in an organized way, in full accordance with the demands of the law on people'c control in the USSR. In the course of the report and election meetings it is necessary not only to analyze critically what has been done but also to define ways of improving control. It is necessary to elect to the committees, groups and posts energetic, politically mature, principled activists, in particular from among the ranks of workers and kolkhoz members who are capable of successfully fulfilling the task of verifying execution. In cases where the leaders of committees and groups are being replaced, party activists who enjoy the collectives' trust are being nominated for these posts. Here we should be guided by the practice of electing deputy secretaries of members of party committees and party organization bureaus to be the chairman of committees and groups -- a practice which has been approved by the CPSU Central Committee and has justified itself in practice.

The holding of report and election meetings of people's control committees, groups and posts requires particular party attention. It is important for this crucial campaign to take place to a high organizational and political standard and in a businesslike, exacting atmosphere. It is necessary to ensure wide, committed participation by working people in meetings, conferences and in the discussion of the results of work by people's control organs; and to publicize report and election meetings in the press, on television and radio. Representatives of the administration and leaders of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations must play an active part in the work of meetings and conferences and in discussing the reports of people's controllers.

Party committees and bureaus should attentively analyze the criticism, observations and proposals made by working people. Activists elected to groups and patrol posts must be clearly aware that they are entrusted with an honorable but crucial matter. At the same time each people's controller must be confident that his public work will receive the necessary support.

The report and election campaign in people's control organs must help to step up the verification of execution on the part of the broad masses, and to further mobilize labor collectives to implement the 26th CPSU Congress decisions, put into practice the country's Food Program and fulfill and overfulfill the State Plan for 1983 and the 11th 9-Year Plan as a whole.

Letters, Results Cited

LD281456 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Sergey Zheleznyak commentary: "In the People's Control Committees"]

[Text] Work with letters from the working people is an important aspect of the People's Control Committees' activity. Regardless of the level, whether it be a rayon, town, oblast or any other committee, all applications are, I would say, examined scrupulously; checks are carried out and, if necessary, raids, and, of course, the appropriate decisions are adopted. What is more, the letter stays with the control committee until such time as this decision is carried out. Here are just two examples.

A group of associates at the Soviet Union Ministry of Construction petitioned the USSR Committee of People's Control. They reported that regulations regarding allocation of garden plots were being violated in organizations under the ministry's jurisdiction. The controllers of the ministry were entrusted with investigating this claim. The facts laid out in the letter were confirmed. Thus, (Markelova), deputy head of the Main Administration for Economic Planning, had made use of her post to acquire two garden plots for her daughters. Well, and once you have a plot, you have to build something on it, and on a ministerial scale, at that. The managers of construction organizations obviously considered it awkward to refuse their boss, and so heavy trucks with materials and cranes, excavators and other machines streamed onto the garden plots. And all for prices and tarriffs different from those which ordinary citizens pay for services or materials, as they were wholesale prices, which are considerably lower than retail prices.

As a result of the check, communists gave (Markelova) a strict reprimand, which was to be entered on her work record. The illegally aquired garden plots were handed over to the management of the cooperative. (Markelova) paid the necessary extra sum for both construction materials and the transportation and other work. She has been relieved of her post for misusing her official position. The managers of the building organizations who so obligingly put at her disposal [words indistinct] at the state's expense, have also been relieved of their duties for violating stock and financial discipline.

Another example: Thistime a letter was examined by the Lvov Oblast People's Control Committee. It contained a complaint against the workers' supply department of the Yavorovo sulphur production association. It mentioned in particular that goods in short supply were deliberately kept back in the stockrooms and released to only two shops on the verbal orders of the supply department manager. Even in these shops, however, the goods did not come on open sale, but were sold only to relatives and friends. The facts were confirmed and the committee punished the culprits. The direct culprit, (Barzun), deputy manager of the supply department, was dismissed from his post. Comrade (Ufimko), manager of the shops dealing in goods other than foods, was strictly reprimanded. The party raykom punished (Solunik), manager of the workers' supply department, in accordance with the results of the check.

Such is the result of verifying two letters addressed to people's controllers.

IZVESTIYA ON THE HANDLING OF CITIZENS' COMPLAINTS

PM271829 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Reception on Personal Matters"]

[Text] Each day thousands of Soviet citizens address Soviet organs, the most varied institutions, enterprise leaders and other officials over personal matters or call in for a personal consultation.

It would seem to be a most routine matter of everyday life. But for the institutions to which people apply and for the officials, the reception of working people and a sensitive and attentive attitude toward their needs are a politically important and highly responsible matter.

The profound essence of our socialist democracy lies in the fact that the organs of power and management are close to the people, are accountable to them and organize their own activity with one goal in mind: the people's well-being. This is why the Communist Party educates leaders at all levels and the workers within the apparatus of Soviet institutions in the spirit of an attentive and respectful attitude toward the needs of working people, no matter how minor they may appear. Very often a seemingly private complaint conceals an important state matter. But sometimes a citizen really raises a purely personal matter -- he should still encounter a sensitive and benevolent attitude.

The reception of citizens is not a personal matter for an enterprise or institution leader. Our legislation and especially the 12 April 1968 Decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium "On the Procedure for Dealing with Citizens' Proposals, Statements and Complaints" clearly regulate the procedure for receiving people and the organization of this important matter. Furthermore, personal responsibility for organizing reception and for the examination of proposals, statements and complaints by citizens in state organs, enterprises, institutions, organizations, kolkhozes and other cooperative and public organizations is placed directly with their leaders. The reception of citizens must take place regularly and at convenient times for people, including the evening hours. These requirements of the law must become the immutable rule.

The majority of institutions and enterprises correctly observe the norms governing the reception procedure, although checks have shown that this situation by no means prevails everywhere. To follow the prescriptions of the legislation accurately is a very important, but by no means the only, aspect of the question. According to V.I. Lenin, "In addition to the law there are also cultural standards, which cannot be subordinated to any law." No wonder that our party's Central Committee has repeatedly drawn attention in its decisions to the need for a sensitive and attentive attitude toward working people's letters and statements, and to the need not to substitute empty promises for concrete assistance and to analyze the information contained in the statements and letters so as to draw practical conclusions to correct these or other shortcomings.

The CPSU Central Committee resolution, "On Measures to Further Improve Work with Letters and Proposals from Working People in the Light of the 26th CPSU Congress Decisions" faced the party, soviet and trade union organs with the requirement "to systematically review the state of work with letters and for the reception of working people in enterprises, institutions and organizations; to hear reports from their leaders and regularly discuss these questions at plenums and in the bureaus of party organizations, at sessions and sittings of Soviet ispolkoms and in ministry and department collegiums."

The soviets of people's deputies have the task of not only efficiently organizing the reception of people within ispolkoms and their subordinate organizations. As an organ of power, the soviet must ensure that legality is observed on its territory -- in other words, it must ensure that the procedure for the reception of citizens is not violated in a single institution, no matter which department it may be subordinate to.

It is important to study, analyze and disseminate new ways of receiving citizens that have proven their worth. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has in the past discussed the practice of receiving people at soviet ispolkoms, enterprises, institutions and organizations in Chelyabinsk Oblast and in its decree drew attention to the necessity to introduce the practice of receiving citizens actually at their place of work or residence. In many cases the leaders of several rayon services make a practice of traveling to larger villages, where the reception of citizens is organized. The reports of ispolkom leaders to the population make a large contribution to meeting the personal needs of citizens.

Of course, all these forms of contact with the population can only supplement, not replace, personal reception at institutions or enterprises, especially at consumer service institutions, housing institutions and so on, as well as at the management organs to which these services are subordinated.

People come with urgent problems to law enforcement organs, notarial organs and legal consultations. Sometimes these are very complicated and delicate matters. It is not always, however, that even the premises themselves are conducive to a detailed and confidential conversation. The local soviets must show constant concern for these institutions.

In some institutions one can still encounter violations of the demands concerning the comprehensive, objective and timely review of statements and complaints expressed during reception. Some officials, instead of investigating the causes of a complaint which contains criticism of an institution, try to discover facts which could somehow compromise the complaintant and cast aspersions on him. A firm stop must be put to such practices. Yes, citizens' statements can sometimes be unfounded. But if a man's request is turned down, the reason for this must be clearly and exhaustively explained. It is precisely poorly reasoned refusals which give rise to further complaints and prolonged procrastination, and confuse people.

It must be always borne in mind that the citizens' appeal on a personal matter is one of the concrete ways in which he exercises his constitutional rights and an important source of information about the real state of affairs in particular spheres of life. Behind each appeal stands a human being, a matter important for him, and sometimes his fate. These are not empty words or fine phrases. It is only rarely that people go along to a reception and join the line to see the leader of an institution just for the sake of it, without any serious reason.

Many voters appeal to their deputies over various needs. The soviet ispolkoms must see to it that the deputy has at his disposal all the necessary information concerning progress in the implementation of instructions and the fulfillment of plans for housing and cultural and consumer service construction, and that he is abreast of the latest ispolkom decisions. He needs this to conduct a competent conversation with visitors. It is also necessary to organize legal assistance for the deputies.

The Soviet people have responded wholeheartedly to the party appeal to strengthen discipline, organization and order. The struggle against slackness, red tape and indifferent attitudes toward the matter at hand also applies to ensuring the fast and skillful solution of the complaints which citizens make to Soviet institutions. The soviets of people's deputies and their ispolkoms, relying on the standing commissions and the deputies' groups, are duty bound to do everything to ensure that the reception of citizens on personal matters is organized strictly according to the law and that an atmosphere of good will, businesslike efficiency and attentiveness toward people's needs and opinions prevails in the offices of functionaries and the reception rooms of institutions.

UNION REPUBLICS HOLD COMMUNIST PARTY PLENUMS

16 Feb Azerbaijan Plenum

PM272257 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 17 Feb 83 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A routine plenum of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee was held 16 February.

The plenum discussed the question of measures to further improve work with letters and suggestions and the reception of working people in party, soviet and other organizations of the republic in the light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum.

Comrade K.M. Bagirov, first secretary of Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered the report.

The following spoke in the debate which developed from the report: V.A. Guseynov, first secretary of Baku Party Gorkom; K.N. Ragimov, first secretary of Nakhichevan Party Obkom; B.S. Kevorkov, first secretary of Nagorno-Karabakh Party Obkom; L.S. Beshcheva, machine operator at the Sumgait orgsintez association; G.G. Gubatov, first secretary of Ali-Bayramly Party Gorkom; L.Kh. Rasulova, chairman of the Azerbaijan Trade Union Council; Sh.K. Kerimov, Azerbaijan SSR minister of motor transport; M.Ya. Kaziyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Auditing Commission; N.E. Mustafayev, first secretary of Sheki Party Grokom; R.I. Makhmudov, editor of the newspaper KOMMUNIST; L.I. Ismaylov, chairman of the republic Supreme Court; G.D. Rasulbekov, Azerbaijan SSR minister of communications; and I.B. Kuliyev, chairman of Korovabad Gorispolkom.

Comrade V.I. Lobusov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Letters Department, spoke on the question under discussion.

A corresponding resolution was adopted on the question under discussion.

The plenum approved the Azerbaijan SSR Food Program for the period through 1990.

Comrade K.M. Bagirov delivered a concluding speech.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

The plenum elected Comrade F.A. Aliyev secretary and bureau member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee.

Comrade Z.A. Samed-Zade was approved as chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Planning and Finance Organs Department and Comrade N.S. Sadykh-Zade was approved as chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Chemical and Petroleum Industry Department.

The plenum transferred Comrades D.M. Asanov and Sh.T. Aliyev from candidate membership to membership of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee.

Comrade Yu.T. Mordvintsev, CPSU Central Committee executive, took part in the plenum's work.

Further Discussion

LD161906 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] A plenum of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee was held today. The plenum reviewed measures for further improving work on handling [citizens] letters and on improving the interviewing system at the request of working people [priyem trudyashchiknsya]. The rapporteur, Comrade Bagirov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the republic's Communist Party, and other speakers noted the growth in the number of letters containing specific and businesslike proposals concerning improvements in the management of the economy and intensification of the fight against absenteeism, substandard work and falsification of accounts. The proposals submitted by working people are taken into consideration in solving current and long-term tasks of economic and social development. They comprise the foundation of the measures adopted with the aim of expanding housing and cultural amenities construction, towards improving the work of passenger transport and a range of other undertakings.

It was also pointed out, however, that the method of dealing with letters does not yet fully meet modern requirements. Specific ways were determined for eliminating the shortcomings. Specifically assigned days for interviewing citizens will be arranged in cities and rayons.

There will be more extensive interviewing during the evenings and on holidays, also more interviewing directly in the work collecktives and in the residential areas.

The plenum approved the Azerbaijan SSR Food Program for the period up to 1990.

Comparison Report

LD162054 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 16 February carries a report on the Azerbaijan Communist Party plenum which has been compared with the above item and found to be identical with the following exceptions:

Second paragraph, line 2 1600 GMT version reads:

...meet modern requirements. There is evidence of a heartless and unconscientious approach toward the examination of citizens' statements. Timetables for the examination of letters are being violated. Specific ways were...(supplying additional passage)

Same paragraph, last line 1600 GMT version reads:

...the residential areas. Open-letter days and other forms will be used more actively.

The plenum approved...(picking up new paragraph; supplying additional sentence)

Georgian 20 Feb Plenum

PM260957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Improving Work Style"]

[Text] Tbilisi, 20 Feb -- The Georgian Communist Party Central Committee plenum which finished today in Tbilisi has determined specific ways for achieving high end results in the economy and further developing the republic's social and sociopolitical life. It discussed the activity of the republic Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat over the past year and tasks for further improving the style and methods of party work in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum.

The report presented to the plenum by the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the speeches by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, and other speakers noted qualitative changes which have taken place in the matter of party leadership of the national economy. Party influence on all aspects of the republic's life and in all spheres of the development of the economy, science and culture has increased. The practice of creating and operating commissions, workers' groups and coordinating councils under party committees has, in particular, justified itself. They have been concentrating efforts on strengthening discipline, organization and order in labor collectives; and on seeking out the most effective methods and means of solving the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress.

The plenum focused attention on the necessity of further enhancing party organizations' militance and the communists' vanguard role. Proposals were made for improving the style and methods of party work in the light of the propositions and conclusions contained in the speeches by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the party Central Committee November (1982) Plenum and at his meeting with Moscow machine-tool builders. Here the importance of increasing the effectiveness of party decisions, developing criticism and self-criticism and developing the masses' initiative and activeness was particularly pointed out.

Latvian 25 Feb Plenum

LD252055 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum, which was held in Riga today, discussed the republican party organizations' tasks in developing sotckbreeding in light of the decisions made by the 26th party congress and by the May and November 1982 Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. Both Comrade Voss, the rapporteur and first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, and those who spoke noted that the wintering of cattle is currently being conducted in a better and more organized way.. More milk, meat and eggs have been obtained than during the same period last year. However, this is only the first step.

After all, despite the growth that has been achieved in the production of fodder for stockbreeding, the plan for the first 2 years of 5-year period for selling milk and meat to the state has remained unfulfilled. There are still shortcomings in herd reproduction, in creating a sound fodder base, and in organizing animal raising and veterinary practices.

Achieving a substantial increase in stockbreeding productivity, ensuring the overfulfillment of this year's planned purchases of milk and meat with a view to compensating for the production lag which was allowed to occur early in the five year period -- this is the goal that the plenum of the party organization pointed out to the republic's farm managers. Measures were mapped out to intensify organizational and political work in the countryside. A great deal of attention has been devoted to questions concerning social development in the countryside.

The plenum examined and basically approved the Latvian SSR's Food Program. The plenum was addressed by Comrade Anisovets, deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee's Agricultural Department.

8 Feb Uzbek Plenum

PM271943 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 9 Feb 83 p 1

[Unattributed information report on Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Plenum]

[Text] The ninth Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Plenum was held 8 February 1983.

A report "On Measures to Further Develop Stockraising in the Republic in 1983-1985 in the Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenums" was delivered by Comrade Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee.

Taking part in the debate were: Comrades M.M. Musakhanov, first secretary of Tashkent Obkom; K.K. Kamalov, first secretary of Kara-Kalpak Obkom; A.I. Chudnaya, milking machine operator at the Krasnyy Vodopad experimental station; R.S. Ashuraliyev, first secretary of Samarkand Obkom; I.I. Golovachev, second secretary of Kasha-Darya Obkom; S.M. Mamarasulov, first secretary of Andizhan Obkom; M.Ye. Krasilnikov, director of the Malik Sovkhoz, Sydarinskiy Rayon; A.K. Karimov, first secretary of Bukhara Obkom; V.P. Yesin, first secretary of Navoi Obkom; Kh.U. Umarov, first secretary of Fergana Obkom; U.N. Nasyrov, director of the breeding center of the pedigree livestock breeding science-and-production association; V.A. Khaydurov, first secretary of Syra-Darya Obkom; A.K. Karimov, first secretary of Surkhan-Darya Obkom; I.Kh. Khudaybergenov, first secretary of Khorezm Obkom; M.K. Kamalov, first secretary of Namangan Obkom; I.B. Baymirov, first secretary of Dzhizak Obkom; E.B. Burivev, team leader on the Pogranichnik Sovkhoz, Gagarinskiy Rayon; A.E. Egamberdiyev, chairman of the A.K. Altyn corn-growing Kolkhoz, Tashlakskiy Rayon; and Yu.R. Mamadzhanov, Uzbek SSR minister of the meat and dairy industry.

The concluding speech was delivered at the plenum by Sh. R. Rashidov.

The plenum adopted a resolution corresponding to the question discussed and approved measures to further develop stockraising in the republic in 1983-1985.

Taking part in the plenum's work were CPSU Central Committee members N. Y. Kruchina, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture Department; S. F. Antonov, USSR minister of the meat and dairy industry; K.N. Belyak, USSR minister of machine building for animal husbandry and fodder production; and N. F. Vasilyev, USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources.

With this the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee plenum completed its work.

Additional Information

PM171445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 83 First Edition p 2

[Correspondents N. Gladkov and Yu. Mukimov report: "Tuned for Action. From the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Excerpts] Tashkent -- Yesterday's Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Plenum discussed measures to further develop livestock raising in the republic in 1983-1985 in the light of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenum decisions. The report was delivered by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee.

"Uzbekistan's working people," the keynote speaker said, "have perceived the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenum decisions as their own intimate concern. They unanimously approve the Leninist party's domestic and foreign policy, the course of intensifying the struggle against any manifestations of lack of organization and indiscipline, enhancing the responsibility of labor collectives and their leaders for the fulfillment of plans and pledges, strengthening discipline in all work sectors, making better use of reserves and improving the economy's efficiency.

The planned development rate for livestock raising, it was stated at the plenum, demands a higher standard of party leadership and a considerable improvement in organizational and ideological-political work. Just this is what many raykoms now lack. The republic party Central Committee was forced to rebuke the bureaus and first secretaries of Denauskiy, Frunzenskiy, Gallyaaralskiy, Baysunskiy and Srednechirchikskiy Raykoms for violating state discipline, which was expressed in the nonfulfillment of the meat and milk sales plan last year. The secretaries of a number of raykoms have been warned of their personal responsibility for the situation in livestock raising.

In certain rayons the party stratum among the people working in livestock units hardly reaches 6-12 percent. In order to fundamentally improve the state of affairs it is necessary to strengthen party influence in livestock-raising collectives, devote more attention to admitting progressive workers to the party, enhance the vanguard role of communists and enhance the role of kolkhoz and sovkhoz primary party organizations.

It is also necessary to enhance the role and significance of rural raykoms. They have not been considerably strengthened, and agricultural sections have been set up in them. But, unfortunately, the proper return has still not been achieved everywhere. The forms and methods of party leadership of agriculture essentially remain as before. Raykom workers are frequently tormented by petty business and are engaged in gathering all sorts of statistical data to the detriment of lively organizational work. An unjustifiably large number of conferences of all sorts are still held, and a large number of decisions are adopted which remain only on paper. The following example was cited from the plenum rostrum.

Darya Oblast's Denauskiy Raykom has many times over the past 2 years examined questions of the development of livestock raising at plenums, bureau sessions and aktiv meetings. And what has happened? During this time the rayon has undersupplied the state to the tune of 2,270 tons of milk and 400 tons of meat. Raykom First Secretary D. Charyyev and Rayispolkom Chairman R. Mirzayev have been dismissed for an unsuitable leadership style and irresponsibility.

Party, soviet and economic organs and primary party organizations, it was stated at the plenum, must reorganize their work in accordance with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenums and the propositions and conclusions contained in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speeches. The instruction that the chief thing today is to be tuned for action, not for big words, must become an immutable law for every party organization and every communist. What is needed is a more attentive approach to selecting, placing and training cadres. It is important to ensure that the decisive sectors are occupied by politically mature, competent, enterprising people with organizational abilities and a feeling for what is new.

Ideological and political education work also requires considerable improvement. A moral atmosphere in which every working person considers it his natural duty to work for the greatest return must be created and maintained by all means, forms and methods, through words of persuasion and the force of law. Everyone must be clearly aware that the implementation of any plans -- large or small -- depends on his own personal contribution to the common cause. It is the very important concern of party committees and soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations to develop working people's initiative and activeness in every possible way and to strengthen discipline. Socialist competition must be raised to a new, higher level.

The plenum participants assured the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo that Uzbekistan's Communists and working people will apply all their effort, knowledge and energy to fulfilling with honor the measures for the accelerated development of livestock raising in the republic and will thereby make a worthy contribution to implementing the country's Food Program.

MUSCOVITE SENTENCED FOR ANTISTATE ACTIVITY

LD011638 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 1 TASS -- The collegium for criminal cases of the Moscow city court has completed the examination of the criminal case of Senderov, a Moscow inhabitant who was charged with anti-state activities.

During the trial witnesses confirmed facts proving that Senderov had engaged in criminal activities. Besides, the court also studied material evidence corroborating the defendant's guilt.

The court heard the procurator's indictment, the statement of the defence and the defendant's final statement. The defence found itself in a difficult position as the lawyer had not expected Senderov to plead fully guilty and declare that he had really been connected with the foreign subversive organisation people's labor alliance and perpetrated anti-state activities in the territory of the Soviet Union on its instructions.

Taking into account the above facts and the opinions of the defence and the procurator, the court found Senderov guilty of having committed grave crimes against the state and sentenced him to seven years in prison.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR FEBRUARY REPORTED

22-23 Feb

LD250502 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 22-23 February. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

22 February

Farms in Kazakhstan are completing preparations for the spring campaign. To date 2,000 of the 2,500 farms have completed the cleaning of seeds, 90,000 tractors have been repaired and 20 million tons of organic fertilizer have been distributed in the fields. Snow retention is in progress. In the Mari Nonchernozem Zone, 4.5 million tons of organic fertilizer have been distributed in the fields. The plan is this year to introduce 12 tons of compost on each hectare of Arabic land. (0700 GMT)

The agricultural workers of the Chu Valley in Kirghizia have started sowing cereals half a month earlier than usual. More than 60 complex mechanized units are working in the fields. Farms in the Issyk-Kul and Talas Oblasts in the Central Tyan Shan are ready to start this work. (1100 GMT)

Overhaul of equipment is nearing completion on the farms of Kustany Oblast, one of the biggest producers of grain in Kazakhstan. Altogether 84 percent of all tractors have been prepared for work. However, our correspondent also notes a negative fact. The repair of powerful K-700 tractors is being held up on the oblast as a result of a lack of engine components and parts, and a shortage of gearboxes and other spares. The repairmen are sending their complaints to the enterprises of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. (2105 GMT)

23 February

Half a million tons of seed have been prepared for the spring sowing campaign in the Kurgan Oblast. They have been brought up to the necessary conditions. More than 80 percent of the seeds meet the requirements of the first and second classes of the seed standard. (0700 GMT)

Uzbek land cultivators plan to produce more than 2.5 million tons of grain this year. Land cultivators in Karshinskaya Steppe were the first to begin to sow summer crops. Watering has been carried out and this is helpful for the early appearance of vigorous shoots. Fast-ripening and high-yield strains are being sown on the whole area. Almost 1.5 million hectares of waterlogged land have recently been turned into fertilz arable land in the Belorussian Polesye. Dozens of grain, meat and dairy state farms have been set up here. (0800 GMT)

The overhauling of ploughing and sowing machinery ended today in Belorussia. Ninety percent of tractors and almost three fourths of grain combines are ready for operation. (0830 GMT)

First results of field work done during the period of sharp rise in temperature, the so-called February windows, have been summed up in the FSRSR Agriculture Ministry. A radio correspondent has been told that early crops, mainly grain crops, have been sown on almost 100,000 hectares in the North Caucasus. In Rostov Oblast, where these warm weather slots are rare, the machinery was ready for the fields. (1500 GMT)

Tashkent Uzbekselmash works is ahead of schedule with delivery of agricultural machines for cotton growers. More than 2,000 seed drills and many devices for applying herbicides have been dispatched.

Repair of sowing and soil working machinery has been completed in Tataria. (2105 GMT)

25-26 Feb

LD280340 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 25-26 February. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

25 February

Selective field work has begun for machine operators in Astrakhan Oblast. Harrowing of winter grain crops is underway in Kharabalinsk and Yenotayevskiy Rayons. Mineral fertilizer is being spread on fields; preparation of machinery for sowing early crops is complete. (0900 GMT)

Mass sowing of perennial grasses has begun in the Chu Valley, Kirgizia. Planting of potatoes has begun in the south of the republic. (1200 GMT)

Potato planting has begun in Tashkent Oblast, Uzbekistan. (1200 GMT)

Most of February has been warm in Tajikistan. Sowing has started. Corn alfalfa, sugar beet and other vegetable and forage crops have been planted. It has now turned slightly colder; snow fell yesterday. Farmers are preparing for cotton sowing. Tajikistan intends to harvest 910,000 tons of raw cotton this year. Over 1/3 is to be fine fiber. (1430 GMT)

26 February

Soil-tilling and sowing equipment is ready for the spring in Ryazan Oblast. Attention is now concentrated on the tractors. Over 7,000 tractors are ready for use, which is 90 percent of the total. (0300 GMT)

Alfalfa sowing has begun in the valleys of Tajikistan. The varieties Vakhshskaya-233 and Vakhshskaya-300 are being sown. They can give a yield of 180-220 q/ha of hay. There are 120,000 ha allocated to alfalfa in the republic, from which should be obtained over 1.5 million tons of hay and haylage, 54,000 tons of vitaminized grassmeal and many briquettes, comprising altogether 3/4 of the republic's fodder. (1400 GMT)

In northern Ossetia, all corn seeds being sown this spring are top grade. About 10,000 tons of seeds have been prepared, cleaned, treated with microelements and carefully packed. Over 90,000 tons of seeds will be sent to almost 40 oblasts, krays and republics. They will cover 4 million ha. (1400 GMT)

In Georgia this spring, Anisya spring wheat is to be sown. In Belorussia the Belorusskaya-80 strain will be sown. A new strain of wheat called Vera provides high-quality grain crops and is being distributed beyond the Urals. Druzhina, a new strain developed by Krasnodar breeders, is proposed for use in the Chelyabinsk Oblast. A new spring wheat, the (?Zhanitsa), which guarantees large grain crop yields, will be grown in a number of rayons in Bashkiriya. Breeders are at present working on improving grain crop quality to increase the real value of the grain harvest by 20-25 percent. (1630 GMT)

Farms in Altay Kray have finished preparing seeds for the sowing season. More new and specially selected varieties of spring wheat have been procured than last year.

The cotton-sowing farms of the Karshi Steppe in Uzbekistan are fully supplied with sowing materials. (1850 GMT)

MID-FEBRUARY WEATHER, CROP DEVELOPMENT REVIEWED

PM260949 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 25 Feb 83 p 1

[Report by agrometeorologist T. Ivashneva under rubric "USSR Hydrometeorological Center Reports": "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] Air temperatures were close to normal over most of the USSR's European territory in the 10-day period under review. They remained, however, 2-6 degrees above normal in the south of the Central and Volga-Vyatka regions, the Central Chernozem Region, the Ukraine and the North Caucasus; and 7-12 degrees above normal in Rostov Oblast and the Volga and Urals regions.

At the start of the second 10-day period in February the weather remained relatively warm over most of the territory of the European part of the USSR. Temperatures then fell almost everywhere. The drop in temperatures was accompanied by snowfall. A blanket of snow covered fields in virtually every zone, except for the southeastern extremities of Krasnodar Kray, Stavropol Kray and the Kalmyk ASSR. Fields in the Ukraine and the North Caucasus, where winter crops were vegatating, were covered in 2-10 cm of snow, so the low temperatures recorded in the Ukraine and Moldavia (minus 10-12 degrees) and the North Caucasus (minus 5-9 degrees) did not endanger the crops. Minimum temperatures at the depth at which winter grain crops produce tillering nodes were minus 1-4 degrees throughout the USSR's European territory. Wintering conditions were normal for fruit trees. As the results of fruit spurgrowth showed, damage to fruit and leaf buds is negligible everywhere, not exceeding 10-20 percent anywhere.

It was warm in Georgia and Azerbaijan. Air temperatures were 2-4 degrees higher than normal. Maximum air temperatures rose to 13-18 degrees, and to 20-21 degrees on the Caucasus' Black Sea coast. In these regions winter grain crops grew during most of the period. The warm weather caused the buds on apricot, almond, cherry plum and apple trees to swell (in some places even to open) 2-3 weeks earlier than usual.

The weather remained relatively warm in farming regions of West Siberia and Kazakhstan. While air temperatures during the period were, on average, 4-8 degrees above normal, in Kustanay and Uralsk Oblasts and in the north of Aktyubinsk Oblast they were 9-12 degrees higher than normal. Sub-zero temperatures posed no threat to winter crops since they were covered in a 15-45 cm thick blanket of snow.

It was cold in East Siberia's farming zone. Air temperatures in the east of Irkutsk Oblast and in the Transbaykal Region were 2-6 degrees lower than usual, and severe frosts reaching minus 33-40 degrees, and in the northeast reaching minus 44 degrees, were recorded. Only in Krasnodar Kray was it warmer than usual (by 2-6 degrees).

The weather remained warm in the Central Asian republics (except for mountain regions in Kirghizia). Air temperatures in the period were 2-6 degrees higher than usual. Maximum temperatures rose to 18-24 degrees. Winter grain crops were vegetating in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenia. Mass swelling and opening of buds was observed on fruit crops. Almond trees began to blossom in the republics' southern extremities. The development of fruit crops is 10-20 days (more in some places) ahead of normal.

ARMENIA STRUCK BY FREAK COLD WEATHER STREAK

PM242133 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 6

[S. Bablumyan report under the rubric "Courage": "Against the Elements"]

[Excerpts] Yerevan [no date given] -- Having watched the Vremya program, which ends with the weather forecast, people are amazed.

Well I never, the temperature is above zero in Siberia, while in Armenia the frosts are a match for Siberian ones.... And this has been so since last November!

This is only the second time in the past 100 years that there has been an unusually cold and snowy winter in Armenia. Here is information from the republic's hydrometeorological center: The air temperature in mountainous regions fell to minus 36 degrees, and to minus 24-28 degrees on the Ararat Plain and in its foothills. Selfless work was mounted as of the very first frosty days with a view to protecting people against the cold, preserving next year's harvest and saving public property. The republic's main roads and railways have remained open throughout these months even though more than 90 percent of them are situated above 1,500 meters! Not a single person suffered because of snowdrifts -- all who found themselves in trouble were helped in time.

...While I write, a snowstorm continues to rage outside the window. I dial the hydrometeorological service's number: "The temperature is expected to drop, with precipitation in the form of snow...."

NURIYEV ATTENDS PRODUCE FARMING MINISTRY MEETING

PM261009 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Feb 83 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "New Tasks"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming Collegium took place in Moscow on 17 February. N.T. Kozlov, USSR minister of fruit and vegetable farming, gave a report on the results of the implementation of the state plan for the economic and social development of the sector by enterprises and organization collectives for 1982 and tasks for 1983 in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenums and the instructions and recommendations contained in speeches by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission on the Agroindustrial Complex, spoke at the session. V.A. Karlov, chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; V.K. Mesyats, USSR agriculture minister; and representatives of a number of ministries and departments took part in the collegium's work.

RASHIDOV AT TASHKENT AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

LD281433 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Problems relating to increasing agricultural and animal husbandry production were discussed in Tashkent today at a conference of front-ranking Uzbek agricultural workers. Comrade Khudayberdiyev, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR, who delivered a report, and other speakers pointed out that this year the republic had to ensure a further rise in production. The main task is to use all possible means to help implement the country's Food Program. Those taking part in the conference decided to continue to develop traditional socialist competition among farms in Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Turkmenia.

Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Central Committee, addressed the assembly.

MILITARY LEADERS MARK SOVIET ARMED FORCES DAY

Kutakhov Article

PM242155 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 23 Feb 83 pp 1, 3

[Article by Chief Marshall of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the Air Force, USSR deputy defense minister and hero of the Soviet Union: "On Guard Over Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] Today our country is marking Soviet Army and Navy Day. Engendered by the Great October Socialist Revolution and raised by the Leninist Communist Party, the Soviet Armed Forces have carried their combat banners with honor and glory through battles and stern trials and are vigilantly standing guard over peace and socialism.

The formation of the new army occurred during difficult times for the young Soviet Republic when it was necessary to overcome the forces of internal counterrevolution and repulse the imperialists of the Entente countries. The Red Army was firmly tempered in the fire of the 3 years of fighting in the civil war and routed the heavily-armed hordes of interventionists and White Guards.

Our party and the people, carrying out peaceful socialist building, did not forget for one moment the need for constant and reliable defense of the October Revolution's gains. The industrialization of the country, the collectivization of agriculture and the consolidation of the Soviet peoples' friendship made it possible to create the necessary and decisive preconditions for repulsing imperialism's new aggression. The Soviet Armed Forces were only 23 years old when they were attacked by Hitlerite Germany's Army, the most powerful of that time. At that difficult time for the motherland, the Communist Party roused all the peoples of the Soviet land to repulse the aggressor and rout the enemy.

The Soviet Union's victory in the Great Patriotic War was a historic landmark in the fate of all mankind. It was a mighty catalyst for the world revolutionary process begun by the October Revolution and exerted the most profound influence on the entire further course of world development. Since then the Soviet people have made great strides and have increased their motherland's economic, scientific, technical and defense potential immeasurably. Occupied with creative labor, our country is steadfastly pursuing a course toward peaceful coexistence with states of different social systems. Defending and strengthening peace and the cause of social progress, it acts in a unified formation with the fraternal socialist countries.

The 65th anniversary of our valiant Armed Forces is being marked in an atmosphere of Soviet people's selfless labor in the implementation of the 26th CPSU Congress' historic decisions and the fulfillment of the targets for the country's economic and social development in the 11th 5-Year Plan. Soviet people greeted the decisions of the party Central Committee November (1982) Plenum and the provisions of the report "Sixty Years of the USSR" by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with fervent approval and as their sacred cause and guide to action.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are resolutely pursuing the Leninist course of creation and peace. But this peace-loving foreign policy course is fiercely opposed by the aggressive imperialist forces, above all the United States, which are trying to push the world toward the brink of war and undermine the peaceful basis of interstate relations. It is through their fault that the situation in the international arena has worsened sharply.

Gambling on the attainment of military superiority over the USSR and the Warsaw Pact, Washington's bellicose circles are openly propagandizing the cult of strength, exacerbating the situation in various parts of the world, intensively building up arms, particularly nuclear arms, and accelerating material preparation for war. The combat might of the ground forces, Air Force and Navy is being built up. The network of military bases and installations ranged against the USSR and the entire socialist community is being improved. The production of cruise missiles and also of various new types of weapons of mass destruction is being expanded.

Under these conditions, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government constantly focus their attention on questions of ensuring the reliable security of the Soviet Union and its allies and friends. "We are well aware that you cannot obtain peace from the imperialists by begging," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov has stressed. "It must be defended by relying solely on the indestructible might of the Soviet Armed Forces."

There have been great changes in the futher strengthening of our motherland's defense capability in recent years thanks to new successes in economic development, the improvement of society's sociopolitical structure and the further introduction of scientific and technical achievements in practical military matters. The Armed Forces' combat potential has risen to a qualitatively new level and there has been a considerable increase in their fire power, strike force and maneuverability. In terms of technical equipment, organizational structure and personnel training they are fully equal to their historical destiny and to the demands of the time and are capable of successfully fulfilling any tasks set them by the Communist Party and Soviet Government.

The main element of the Armed Forces combat might under contemporary conditions is the strategic nuclear forces, which are the main factor deterring the aggressor and have the ability to deliver a swift and crushing retaliatory strike should war be launched against the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries by means of nuclear weapons. The Ground Forces -- numerically the largest branch of our Armed Forces -- are being constantly improved. Their fire power now includes tactical and operation-tactical missiles.

The Air Force, a highly maneuverable branch of the Armed Forces, is equipped with supersonic aircraft with automatic weapon and flight control systems, mighty power units and diverse missiles and bombs.

The Air Defense Forces are armed with improved missile and air attack warning facilities, modern antiaircraft missile complexes and top-class aerial interception complexes.

The Navy has acquired new combat skills. It has become truly ocean-going. It is now based on nuclear submarines with a multifarious arsenal of missiles and torpedoes and on a missile-carrying fleet air force.

The Army, Air Force and Navy are backed up by remarkable personnel. Virtually all our servicemen have higher, secondary or incomplete secondary education. About 70 percent of the officers have higher military or military specialist education. Over 90 percent of the officer corps are communists or Komsomol members. The whole tenor of the life of Soviet society and the Armed Forces and the active and purposeful party political work by commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations constantly mold indestructible morale and instill high moral-combat and professional qualities in Soviet servicemen.

The Armed Forces now possess everything necessary to give a prompt and decisive rebuff to any aggression, wherever it comes from. The force and strength of the Army and Navy consists in their indissoluble unity with the people. Soviet servicemen taken an active part in the country's sociopolitical life. Many thousands of servicemen have been elected Soviet deputies and members of leading party organs. Our servicemen also take direct part in the country's economic life: They help in the harvest and in the construction of the Baykal-Amur railroad and other import projects and maintain broad and multifaceted ties with workers in factories and plants kolkhozes and sovkhozes and with young students.

Soviet servicemen are greeting the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy -- a portentous holiday -- with new successes in combat and political training. Commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations are skillfully chaneling the personnel's enthusiasm toward the fulfillment of the current training year's tasks. Socialist competition under the slogan "increase vigilance and reliably ensure the motherland's security!" which has been launched among the troops is of great significance in the successful resolution of those tasks.

The current generation of Soviet servicemen is worthily multiplying the combat glory of frontline servicemen. They prove their loyalty to the Armed Forces' heroic traditions by military deeds and displays of military valor. For courage and heroism displayed when fulfilling orders nowadays many servicemen have been awarded the lofty title of Hero of the Soviet Union, including officers I.Zhukov, L. Kuverskiy, Yu. Kuznetsov, Ye. Zelnyakov, V. Shcherbakov, N. Akramov and others.

The young people of the present day are already bringing forth and will continue to bring forth new heroes from their midst. Mass heroism is as characteristic of them as of older generations of Soviet people. This can be seen in all spheres of our life, particularly in the Air Force. Since, on the whole, postwar generations of fliers have had to master fundamentally new flying equipment -- jets and supersonic aircraft equipped with missiles and very complex instruments -- and this is no easy matter. It requires courage, heroism and diligence.

The high standard of Soviet servicemen's combat and political training and their achievements in socialist competition for a fitting greeting of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation are convincing confirmation of their profound understanding of their constitutional duty. On that glorious jubilee many divisions, units and ships were awarded the USSR Defense Ministry pennant "For Courage and Military Valor" and some were given the honorable title of "Named for the 60th Anniversary of the USSR."

During winter combat training, Army and Navy personnel resolved complex new crucial tasks in ensuring our motherland's reliable defense. Soviet servicemen are tirelessly improving their field, air and sea training, mastering combat hardware and weaponry and strengthening discipline and organization.

Closely united around the Leninist Communist Party and boundlessly devoted to their people, the USSR Armed Forces, in combat collaboration with the fraternal armies of the Warsaw Pact, are and will continue to be reliable defenders of the peaceful creative labor of Soviet people and the great gains of socialism and peace.

Shabanov Article

PM272111 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 8 (Signed to Press 14 Feb 83) p 7

[Article by Hero of Socialist Labor Army General V.M. Shabanov, USSR deputy minister for armaments, under rubric "To Mark Soviet Army and Navy Day": "Reliable Bastion of Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] The Soviet Armed Forces, which were born in the crucible of the October Revolution, created by the Great Lenin and nurtured by the Communist Party, are the mighty guardian of the security of the peoples of the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries. The whole of their heroic history, which abounds in unparalleled feats and legendary victories, beats testimony to a high level of combat readiness and Soviet servicemen's boundless devotion to the ideals of socialism.

Lenin's ideas on the military defense of revolutionary gains are reflected in the Warsaw Pact -- a pact of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid. Imperialist ideologues and the leaders of the imperialist blocs see the Warsaw Pact as the main obstacle to the implementation of their aggressive plans and are making enormous efforts to discredit this truly defensive alliance and to misrepresent its role as the defender of freedom and peace. This shows once again that imperialism has not reconciled itself to the socilist states' existence and plans to settle the historical argument between the capitalist and socialist systems at an opportune moment by starting another world war.

In view of this the socialist countries are making efforts to strengthen their military and political alliance. Class brothers and comrades in arms are well aware that the allied armed forces' high level of vigilance and combat readiness is the main prerequisite for foiling any intrigues by imperialist reaction.

The People and the Army are United.

The Communist Party has always regarded and continues to regard defending the socialist fatherland and strengthening the USSR's defense and the Soviet Armed Forces' might as its sacred duty and the duty of all the people and as the socialist state's most important function.

V.I. Lenin regarded the inseparability of the socialist state's defense and the vital interests of the broad masses of working people as an inexhaustible source of strength for the new order and for the might of the new, socialist-type army.

The unity of the Army and the people is the inexhaustible source of our Armed Forces' might and invincibility. This was particularly evident in the years of the Great Patriotic War.

The rear services and the Army formed a single battle camp. High morale and firm production and labor discipline reigned both among troops, at the front, in labor collectives, at industrial enterprises, in construction and transport and on kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Despite all the tribulations, working people, seized with a common desire to hold out and win, built shops and plants, assimilated production capacities and achieved a high level of labor productivity in an exceptionally short time. Under incredibly difficult conditions they forged the weapons of victory.

The sacred sense of socialist patriotism and internationalism that spurred the heroes of combat and labor battles to perform great feats in the years of the Great Patriotic War is now inspiring their heirs to glorious achievements in the name of the beloved motherland. Our people love their armed forces and are confident of their constant readiness to defend their fatherland and will stint nothing to ensure that the army and navy are always equal to their tasks.

The Soviet Armed Forces are an integral part of the multinational Soviet people. Each military collective of a subunit, unit or ship is a united, close-knit combat family and a living embodiment of socialist internationalism. In this family representatives of every nation and ethnic group of the USSR fulfill their sacred civic duty shoulder to shoulder.

Guarding Peace

Our country is a peace-loving power. The Soviet people need lasting and reliable peace in order to resolve great creative tasks. This was most convincingly reaffirmed by the conference of the Warsaw Pact member states' Political Consultative Committee held in Prague 4-5 January 1983.

The USSR and the allied socialist states are countering imperialism's militarist line with a consistently constructive policy of peace, international security and detente.

Particularly significant is the proposal put forward in Prague to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations between states belonging to the two military-political alliances -- the Warsaw Pact and NATO.

This major peace initiative presents a practical opportunity to solve the most serious international problems in accordance with the aspirations of all mankind.

The new peace initiatives by the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact member countries proceed from the premise of the preservation of the parity of the opposing armed forces as the embodiment of the principle of the sides' equal security. Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his report "60 Years of the USSR," stressed: "But let no one delude himself, we will never allow our security or the security of our allies to be threatened."

The military preparations of NATO and the United States and their attempts to achieve military superiority force the socialist community countries to be concerned about their defense.

Thanks to the Soviet people's selfless labor and to the successes achieved in developing the economy, science and technology our valiant Armed Forces possess the most modern weapons and all they need to crush any aggressor. Every branch of the Soviet Armed Forces and category of troops has been further developed. Our strategic missile troops are equipped with powerful weapons systems capable of hitting a target in any part of the world with a high degree of accuracy.

The ground troops are fully motorized. They have the most sophisticated tanks, infantry combat vehicles, missiles and automatic weapons in their arsenal.

While retaining basically the same general structure as in the Great Patriotic War period, the modern motorized rifle division differs from its fundamentally in its combat capabilities. Its total motor power has increased twentyfold and its firepower [ves ognevogo zalpa] more than thirtyfold.

The Air Defense Forces are reliably defending the motherland's skies. At the disposal of the men of the air defense forces are antiaircraft missile complexes and interceptor fighters that are the last word in scientific and technical sophistication and capable of repelling an airborne attack at any moment, regardless of altitude or speed.

The Air Force's fearsome missile carriers are capable of successfully resolving the most complex tasks. Equipped with nuclear submarines and surface ships, aircraft and helicopters, the Soviet Navy is vigilantly serving in the ocean expanses.

At the same time it must be stressed that the might of the Soviet Armed Forces does not lie only to their first-class combat equipment. The Communist Party has always proceeded from the Leninist teaching that no matter how advanced an Army's technical equipment may be, the main force in war is people, with a perfect mastery of combat equipment who are morally and physically tempered and boundlessly devoted to the ideals of communism.

Last year personnel of our Armed Forces showed that they are able to fulfill with dignity and honor the most complicated tasks and that their combat and mobilization readiness is at the highest level.

To mark the upcoming jubilee of the Armed Forces, Army and Navy personnel joined actively in the all-Army socialist competition under the slogan "Raise Vigilance and Reliably Ensure the Motherland's Security." Leaders in this competition are the soldiers from an excellent-rated unit of strategic missile troops (commanded by Lt Col A. Pavlov); the Order of Lenin, Order of the Red Banner and Order of Kutuzov G.I. Kotovskiy Proskurov-Berlin Guards Tank Regiment (commanded by Guards Lt Col B. Dyukov); the Red Banner Order, Orders of Suvorov, Kutozov and Bogdan Khmelnitskiy, Guards Antiaircraft Missile Regiment of the Air Defense Forces (commanded by Guards Lt Col V. Nechayev); a guards bomber regiment (commanded by Guards Lt Col V. Tatarchenko); and a missile-carrying nuclear submarine (commanded by Capt 1st Rank A. Samokhvalov).

There is a widespread movement among the troops for economical utilization of fuel and lubricants and other material resources. The airmen, for instance, have achieved considerable successes in this. The units and subunits whose aviation engineering services are led by Eng Lt Col I. Sushkov, Eng Lt Col V. Pasko and Eng Maj V. Pedchenko have achieved maximum cuts in the time aircraft stand idle with their engines running, ensure optimal modes of flight operations and rationally utilize ground equipment.

Good results in rationalization and invention work have been achieved in the units where the inventions commissions are headed by Eng Col V. Volkov, Col V. Kolesnik, Eng Lt Col V. Shalagan and Eng Maj V. Paliychuk.

Soviet servicemen, like all our people, ardently and unanimously approve the domestic and foreign policy of our party. They devote all their strength and energy to military labor so as to be in a state of constant combat readiness guaranteeing a immediate rebuff to any aggressor.

Economy and Defense

The strengthening of the country's defense capability is possible only on the basis of a highly developed economy, and first and foremost an industry capable of producing on the necessary scale complex and varied military equipment, arms, ammunition, materiel and supplies.

Great significance for strengthening the country's defense capability attaches to the directives of the 26th CPSU Congress for the priority development and technical reequipping of the base sectors of industry (power supply, metallurgy and machinebuilding) which have been and remain the foundation of the economy and defense, and for the introduction into production of fundamentally new equipment and technology so as to increase the flexibility of production and its ability to switch from one type of product to another without disturbing the rhythm of production.

The further development of transport, communications and agriculture and the ensuring of the national economy's requirements for various raw materials and fuels and the required labor resources will also enhance the economic and defense might of our state.

Our metallurgy, for example, consistently implements a line of radically improving the quality of metals and metal products and increasing the output of effective types of metal products while simultaneously increasing production.

The key problem of equipment -- high reliability -- is being solved on the basis of the use of materials having high and stable physical, mechanical, chemical and other qualities. Modern composite materials are most fully in keeping with these requirements. Anisotropic compound materials on a metallic base have been widely utilized in technology.

The scale of the technical backup for combat actions by troops under modern conditions can in no way be compared with operations during the last war. Requirements in terms of material supplies have now increased several dozen times. This is why there has been a manifold increase in the significance of the growth of the country's economic might and the economy's ability to provide in the shortest periods of time the army's requirements in terms of combat equipment, arms and other material resources without which it would be practically impossible to maintain the combat ability of the Armed Forces at the necessary level.

The successful solution of increasingly complex defense problems is assured by the powerful economic, scientific and technical potential created in our country. By developing and augmenting it, Soviet people's selfless labor is achieving a steady growth in the people's living standards and the strengthening of the country's defense capability and the Armed Forces' combat might.

"It is not hard to understand that the great successes we achieve, the stronger our economy; the better the state of affairs in our national economy, the firmer will be our international positions and the stronger peace on earth," Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed during his meeting with Moscow machine builders.

Soviet people understand this well. They look upon the motherland's defense as a matter of vital concern. This is exactly why the defense might of the socialist state is invincible.

For 65 years now the Soviet Armed Forces have been vigilantly guarding the gains of the Great October, loyally serving their people and reliably safeguarding their peaceful labor. The Communist Party, the Soviet Government and all our people see their Armed Forces as the reliable shield of our multinational motherland and a bastion of peace and socialism.

Kurkotkin Article

PM242319 Moscow TRUD in Russian 23 Feb 83 p 2

[Article by Army General S. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy minister of defense: "Soldiers of the Homeland"]

[Text] The 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy is being celebrated at a significant time. Inspired by the decisions of the November (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and having celebrated the 60th anniversary of the USSR, Soviet people are working hard to fulfill the plan for the 3d year of the 5-year plan.

The Soviet people's thoughts and deeds are shared by their armed defenders. They unanimously support the Communist Party's domestic and foreign policy. The entire history of our Armed Forces is a striking example of their devoted service to the socialist motherland.

The Great Patriotic War was a stern test for the Soviet people. The victories at Moscow and Leningrad, in the Battle of Stalingrad, in the battles on the Kursk Bulge, on the Dnepr and in Belorussia and, later, outside the country bestowed immortal glory on our Armed Forces in these terrible years. These victories were achieved in a stubborn heroic struggle, at the cost of immense sacrifices and hardship.

The results of World War II should be a terrible warning to imperialist aggressors and all who try to construct relations with the USSR and the other socialist countries "from a position of strength." But the militarist hysteria that is currently being whipped up on the other side of the Atlantic shows that some people have forgotten the lessons of history and are hoping to frighten us. It can be stated quite definitely that this is a futile venture. You cannot frighten the people who crushed fascism. Everyone knows that the Soviet Union is not preparing to launch an armed attack and that it will not launch one. Soviet military doctrine is purely defensive. Together with the armies of the other Warsaw Pact states, the Soviet Army and Navy are ever ready to repulse an attack by any aggressor, whatever means and methods of warfare he may use.

Thanks to the constant concern of the CPSU and the Soviet Government our Armed Forces are significantly above the level they had reached by the end of the Great Patriotic War in terms of equipment, organizational structure, control and logistics. They are at a qualitatively new stage of development thanks to the revolution in the military sphere. Back in early 1960 a USSR Supreme Soviet Session announced the creation of a new category of armed forces -- strategic missile troops. Created in response to the imperialists' challenge to our country, they are a reliable shield of fire for the motherland.

The scientific and technical revolution, which gave birth to the strategic missile troops, has also had a decisive influence on other branches of the Armed Forces.

The high standard of equipment places the accent on the professional training of the troops handling modern weaponry. Often they do not have direct visual contact with the "enemy" and can only follow him on instrument panels. Needless to say, the servicemen must have reached a high level of training. And this is in conditions where every officer, soldier and seaman has a far greater responsibility for his actions and the physical and phychological stress is much greater. That is why we want to see the Army and Navy get people with a high standard of education, people who have acquired good initial military training and specialities and work experience in labor collectives.

The feature of military service is that even in peacetime it requires not only high expertise but also selflessness and courage. There are many examples of this. I will cite just a few. An ordinary class was in progress. The motorized riflemen were practicing throwing handgrenades. Officer A. Kiselev was in charge. At first everything went according to plan. The troops confidently performed the exercise. But then the officer noticed that one young soldier, having pulled the pin, was delaying the throw. Then he transferred the "cocked" grenade from his right to his left hand. Nothing could stop the explosion now with only four seconds to go. And at that moment the officer called out in a firm voice: "get down!" then he dashed across to the soldier, snatched the grenade from him and managed to give him a hefty shove. No one could have done more in the situation.

For some months the doctors fought for the valiant officer's life. And they won the struggle. But not even magicians could have saved his hands. An invalid at 23. Aleksandr Kiselev could not accept that. He wrote a letter to the USSR defense minister. Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov allowed him to continue his service. Military doctors helped with the choice of suitable prostheses. Now Capt A. Kiselev, awarded the Order of the Red Star, is studying at a military academy.

Here is another example. Flights were taking place from an antisubmarine cruiser. A helicopter was coming in to land. Seaman Ivan Pavlyuchenko, duty fireman, was performing his usual duties, operating dexterously and confidently. But at the moment the helicopter came into contact with the deck the ship was rocked by a wave. One of the chassis stanchions crumpled and the helicopter spun on the pad. It then burst into flames. Komsomol member I. Pavlyuchenko made a correct assessment of the situation, switched on the firefighting system and strode bodly into the flames. His help arrived in time. The crewmen were unharmed. For this feat Seaman Pavlyuchenko was awarded the Order of the Red Star.

While reliably guarding the country against foreign enemies, the USSR Armed Forces participate in the solution of certain national economic tasks. Servicemen help to bring in the harvest, they are erecting housing, constructing the Baykal-Amur railroad and transporting millions of tons of freight.

Military service is a comparatively brief stage in young people's lives. But it would be hard to overestimate its importance. It is during these years that the character and beliefs assume their final shape and life experience is acquired. Servicemen continue to persistently master Marxist-Leninist theory and undergo ideological education. These qualities, developed during service, are then borne throughout life. The Army teaches people discipline and the ability to cope with difficulties, purposefulness and responsibility for others as well as for oneself.

Intense combat training is currently talking place in the Army and Navy. Day and night troops are improving their combat expertise. It has to be like this. They are compelled to do this by the complex international situation and the intensive military preparations by the United States and other countries in the aggressive NATO bloc. In celebrating the holiday, the troops of the Army and Navy assure the Communist Party that they will continue to merit the lofty title of armed defenders of the motherland.

Sorokin Article

PM281241 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 83 p 1

[Article by Adm A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, under rubric "Today Is Soviet Army and Navy Day": "A Sacred Duty")

[Text] The Soviet Army and Navy are 65 years old. Created by the Communist Party and Vladimir Ilich Lenin to defend Great October's revolutionary gains, they have traveled a legendary path and have covered their battle standards with unfading glory. Relying on developed socialism's economic, scientific, technical, social and spiritual might, the USSR Armed Forces are now the main factor for peace and the people's security. "We are well aware," Yu. V. Andropov pointed out at the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum, "that you will not get peace from the imperialists merely by asking. Only by relying on the Soviet Armed Forces' invincible might can it be defended."

Our Army and Navy began their history in the dreadful year of 1918, when the ousted exploiters and international reaction made their first desperate attempts to return to the landowners and capitalists the "paradise" that had been taken from them and to strangle the Republic of Soviets in its cradle.

Along with the socialist Armed Forces' birth a fundamentally new relationship between the multinational people and their Army emerged and developed. When workers and peasants saw that, unlike the tsar's army, the Red Army was not an instrument of oppression and exploitation but the working masses' liberator and defender the Armed Forces became the people's pride and joy and serving in them became Soviet citizens' honorable duty.

The USSR Constitution imposes many duties on Soviet citizens. Only one of them, however -- to defend the socialist fatherland -- has been declared a sacred duty. Sacred means most cherished and precious, unusually exalted and extraordinarily honorable, exceptionally important and to be strictly observed.

The mass heroism in the struggle against the enemy, outstanding victories over the interventionists and White Guards and rout of Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism would have been inconceivable were it not for Soviet servicemen's profound awareness of the great truth that the honor, freedom and independence of their motherland and people and the working masses' vital interests are paramount.

The motherland's defenders of the eighties are worthily continuing the traditions of the heroes of the civil war and the Great Patriotic War. They are well aware that the unprecedented arms race, undisguised preparations for a nuclear missile war, aggressive bloc policy, interference in other countries' internal affairs, "crusade" against communism and fanning of tension in various parts of the world engaged in by reactionary circles of imperialism, especially the United States, have brought the current international situation to a point of extreme danger. The men of the Soviet Armed Forces are persistently mastering complex combat equipment and the latest weapons. They are vigilantly guarding the Soviet people's peaceful and constructive labor. They are giving internationalist assistance to their class brothers in the defense of their revolutionary gains.

Soviet servicemen demonstrate their invincible morale, military skills, filial love for their motherland and people and awareness of the sanctity of their duty on marches, in firing practice, on exercises, when making air and sea landings and in the course of combat duties, missile launches, flights and sea cruises. Modern military service is such that even in peacetime it demands courage, fortitude, selflessness and a high level of professional skill.

Serious malfunctions developed in the course of a flight in a supersonic operational training plane. Col I. Zhukov could have ordered Capt A. Abadentsev to eject and could himself have abandoned the plane. But there was a better possibility. Communist Zhukov set himself the task of landing the plane and establishing the cause of the fault. Employing all his flying skill, self-control and precise calculations, he made the stricken craft yield to his will. Col I. Zhukov recently became a Hero of the Soviet Union.

High moral, political and combat qualities have been displayed in our time by Heroes of the Soviet Union Capt 1st Rank L. Kuverskiy, Guards Lt Col Yu. Kuznetsov, Lt Cols Ye. Zelnyakov and V. Shcherbakov, and Sr Lt N. Akramov....

Soviet servicemen not only vigilantly guard peace and the peoples' security. They also take an active part in the fulfillment of plans for the country's economic and social development and do a great deal of educational work. Helping rural working people gather the harvest has become a tradition for servicemen. They work on some of the most difficult parts of the Baykal-Amur railroad [BAM] and are making their contribution to the construction of numerous cultural and consumer service facilities.

Sponsored by the Komsomol, on completing their service many servicemen go off to the countrys' most important construction projects, where, as the saying goes, they give a good account of themselves. "Wherever he is and whatever work he is engaged in, the tempering of a person who has served in the Army will show that under no circumstances will he lose his head or shirk difficulties...." These are the word of Jr Sgt (Reserve) A. Ageyev. A bus driver working on BAM, Ageyev knows what he is talking about. Once, when he wss driving children to school, his vehicle got stuck in a snowstorm. They had to wait just under 3 days for help to arrive. But everything worked out all right. None of the children suffered. This was mainly because the driver remained calm in the crisis and displayed courage and ingenuity -- qualities acquired during his years in the Army.

The Lenin Komsomol gives the Armed Forces systematic fraternal aid. This practical assistance, the foundations of which were laid by the Komsomol's inauguration as patron of the Navy in 1922 and of the Air Force in 1931, is constantly being improved and becoming more substantive. The Komsomol Central Committee shows great initiative in this. In the period between the 18th and 19th congresses alone, Komsomol Central Committee awards were conferred on more than 10,000 servicemen belonging to the Komsomol. Receptions at the Komsomol Central Committee for servicemen who have excelled in combat and political training have become a tradition. The best Komsomol organizations in the Army and Navy are awarded Komsomol Central Committee Red Banners. Strong patronal ties have been established between, on the one hand, the Komsomol Central Committee and Komsomol organizations in a number of union republics, krays and oblasts, and, on the other, the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

The Soviet Army and Navy are greeting their 65th anniversary stronger and more powerful than ever before. Their invincibility lies in close links with the people and devoted service to them, in deep ideological commitment and devotion to the cause of communism, in the existence of remarkable personnel united by friendship, of a well-trained officer corps and of our glorious sole commanders [komandir-yedinonachalnik]; and in the close combat alliance with other socialist armies. The fundamental basis of the Armed Forces' combat might and readiness is the CPSU's leadership. "When formulating the main lines along which to improve the Armed Forces' combat readiness as a task of paramount importance," USSR Defense Minister D.F. Ustinov stresses, "the party and its Central Committee proceed from the premise that in the current circumstances combat readiness must not only be maintained at a high level but must also be constantly enhanced to prevent any contingency from taking us unawares."

Military councils, commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations and all Soviet Army and Navy personnel are doing everything possible to reliably defend socialist gains and the Soviet people's peaceful labor.

Zarudin at Warsaw Concert

AU281252 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 23 Feb 83 p 3

[Speech by Col Gen Yuriy Zarudin, chief of Soviet Armed Forces Northern Group, at the 22 February concert in Warsaw to mark the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces]

[Excerpts] Dear comrades! Esteemed Polish friends! We are sincerely grateful to the Ministry of National Defense and to the Main Political Administration of the Polish Army for inviting us to this ceremonial concert, dedicated to the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army. I wish to convey warm military greetings from the soldiers of the Northern Group of Forces.

Thank you, dear comrades, for the warm words that have been spoken today addressed to the CPSU, the entire Soviet nation and its Armed Forces.

In the hour of extreme trial when the Soviet Republic found itself in the fiery clutches of the capitalist blockade, we were not condemned to solitude. Our class friends from other states rendered the Soviet Republic and its Army great assistance. Over a quarter of a million internationalist soldiers, including over 100,000 Poles, fought in international regiments and divisions.

Among the Polish revolutionary units that were part of the Red Army during the civil war years, the Red Revolutionary Warsaw Regiment earned eternal glory. Bidding farewell to the soldiers of this regiment departing for the front at the beginning of August 1918, Vladimir Lenin said: "A great honor has befallen you: The defense of the sacred ideas of the international brotherhood of nations with sword in hand and the practical implementation of these ideas."

We paid a great price for victory. World War II deprived 28 million Soviet people and over 6 million Poles of their lives. Some 600,000 Soviet soldiers perished on the soil of fraternal Poland for the sake of its freedom and independence and for the sake of a better tomorrow for the Polish nation.

We believe that the blood spilled in the common battle the sacrifices and suffering that occurred during the war and the jointly experienced joy at the victory over fascism will never be forgotten. The brotherhood in arms between the Soviet Army and the Polish People's Army with the armies of the socialist states of the Warsaw Pact is unbreakable!

The aggressive forces of imperialism are responsible for the fact that the international situation has become critically tense. The United States and NATO are making open preparations for war and are meddling in the domestic affairs of other states in order to gain military superiority over the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community.

This is confirmed by the events in your country where imperialism is exploiting the antisocialist forces in Poland and trying to impose its own conditions and diktat on the Polish nation with the aid of economic, political and other "sanctions." In this difficult period for Poland, the Polish People's Army has carried out its patriotic duty with honor and has set up a barrier against counterrevolution.

We wish you, dear comrades, a further consolidation of all the socialist forces in Poland around the PZPR, and we hope that the battle against counterrevolution that has commenced may be consistently brought to a conclusion, that lasting stability may set in and that socialism on Polish soil may be further strengthened.

Let me take advantage of this occasion, dear friends, to express my deep gratitude to the Central Committee of the PZPR, the Government of the Polish People's Republic, the Ministry of National Defense and to local party and administrative bodies for their constant interest in the affairs of the soldiers in the Northern Group of Forces.

Aware of the entire complexity of the current political-military and economic situation in the world, our soldiers, together with those of the Polish Army and the other armies of the socialist community, are honorably carrying out their patriotic and internationalist duty to defend peace and socialism.

Long live the 65th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy!

Long live the unbreakable friendship between the Soviet Army and the Polish People's Army!

Long live the fraternal friendship between the Soviet and Polish nations, and may it strengthen and blossom!

Long live peace and socialism!

DOSAAF CHAIRMAN STATEMENT ON RESULTS OF CONGRESS

OW010603 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 0025 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Statement by Fleet Admiral Georgiy Mikhaylovich Yegorov, hero of the Soviet Union and chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, on the results of the Ninth All-Union DOSAAF Congress at the Great Kremlin Palace; date not given; from the "I Serve the Soviet Union" program -- recorded]

[Text] The congress reviewed the results of the major work of the Defense Society in fulfilling decisions of the party and Soviet Government. The results of the work indicate that it has significantly improved and has been enriched in new ways. The multimillion-strong society has found solutions to our homeland's major tasks, in particular, in training young people for service in the Armed Forces and personnel for mass technical occupations for our national economy, particularly having applied military significance. Major and quite good work has been done in training young people in various military and technical sports, developing the mass nature of sports, as well as ties with our foreign friends, socialist states and states developing friendship with us. Generally, the congress can report to the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government that the Defense Society will work in the future to make our homeland powerful, both defensively and economically.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF ENGINEER TROOPS DIES 'SUDDENLY'

PM011651 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Feb 83 First Edition p 4

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General of Engineer Troops Boris Vasilyevich Zatylkin, deputy chief of the USSR Defense Ministry's Engineer Troops, has died suddenly.

A participant in the Great Patriotic War has departed this life. He devoted his entire conscious life to selfless service for the motherland and the cause of the Communist Party, which he joined in 1941. B.V. Zatylkin was born in 1920 in the city of Kuznetsk, Penza Oblast.

V.I. Petrov, M.D. Popkov, A.M. Mayorov, D.A. Grinkevich, M.G. Khomulo, S.Kh. Aganov, G.Ye. Peredelskiy, P.N. Kuleshov, Yu.M. Potapov, V.K. Pikalov, V.N. Dutov, A.P. Gorbachev, V.G. Koltashov, A.M. Demidov, Ye.S. Kolibernov, P.G. Tsegenko, A.V. Gushchin, Yu.V. Smakovskiy, M.G. Kushnikov, O.D. Kulabukhov, P.G. Gladkikh, G.I. Domanin.